

# THE JERUSALEM

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1996 • NISSAN 12, 5756 • THU AL-QADAH 13, 1416

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# Seven killed in IAF helicopter mishap

# Previous helicopter crashes

The worst IAF helicopter accidents over the past two decades: January 12, 1994, – OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Nehemia Tamari and three other officers die when their belicopter crashes near the command landing pad in

fog in northern Jerusalem.

• July 1, 1992 – St.-Sgt.-Maj. Gil Rosenthal killed when helicopter crashes into sea off Rosh Hanikra during a rescue drill.

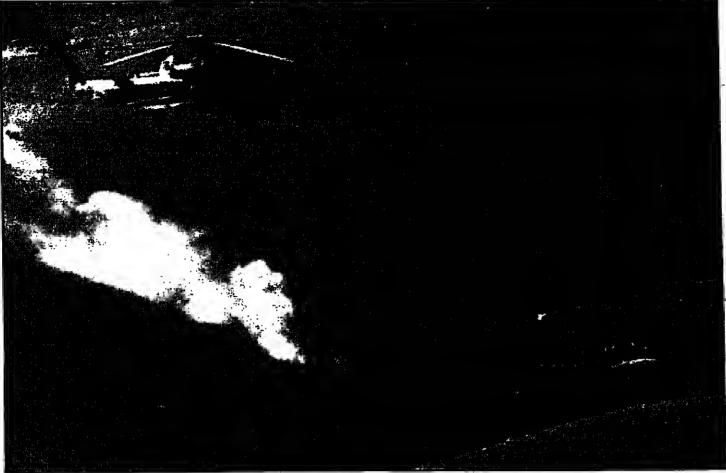
• April 24, 1990 – Seven airmen

killed when two Sikorsky CH-53 helicopters collide near Ofra during a training exercise.

December 30, 1988 - Pilot killed when his helicopter crashed during a border-marking

mission north of Eilat. September 9, 1984 – Five IDF soldiers die in a Bell 212 helicopter crash near Beit She'an.

 May 10, 1977 - A Sikorsky CH-53 crashed into a hill during a nighttime training exercise near Jericho, killing all 54 paratroopers and air force personnel on Jerusalem Post Staff



The wreckage of the Israel Air Force Yasur helicopter still smolders yesterday at the Judean Desert crash site. (Flash 90)

# Hizbullah warns of more Katyushas

HIZBULLAH warned yesterday the Katyusha attacks on the Galilee Saturday night were not its final word in retaliation for the killing of two Lehanese civil-ians by IDF shelling earlier that

Hizbullah's fighting arm, the Islamic Resistance, said the 28 rockets fired in three salvoes at western and central Galilee and the Panhandle were only a taste of reprisals to come.

The Resistance, in a statement broadcast on Lehanese radio, said it reserves the right to retaliate in its own time and manner, and warned the "Zionist enemy not to carry out any stupid acts.' woman resident was very

lighti, wounded in the attacks near midnight, although several apartments were damaged when a single Katyusha rocket grazed the roof of a huilding in Kiryat Shmona and exploded on the ground.

A tense quiet prevailed along the northern border and in south

Saturday attacks only 'a taste of what's to come'

Lehanon yesterday following the attacks and IDF shelling of suspected terrorist targets north of he zone.

Reports from Lehanon said IAF warplanes staged mock bombing raids yesterday, especially in the south.

President Ezer Weizman visited Kiryat Shmona yesterday afternoon and later met with Western Galilee council heads in Nahariya. In hoth places he heard criticism about what was described as the lack of a harsh response to Hizhullah and complaints that the government is not doing enough to help the region in view of the security situation.

At the conclusion of his visit to Kiryat Shmona, Weizman said the situation in south Lebanon could not continue in its present form. He called on residents to be patient and let the IDF handle **DAVID RUDGE** 

"When, where, and how is not for us to discuss today. I can only tell you that I predict - that I know - that the matter will be dealt with," Weizman told residents.

Nahariya Hospital director Prof. Shaul Shasha told the president that around 100 of the patients being treated at the hospital are housed in wooden huildings and must be moved to safety underground during an

"This is not just a problematic operation, hut something which puts everybody - the patients, their relatives, and residents of

sure," Shasha told Weizman. Hizhullah's Katyusha attacks followed an incident Saturday afternoon, when IDF troops spotted what they thought was an armed gang moving on the ont-skirts of Yatar village, north of the security zone, and opened fire at them, killing two and wounding at least one other. It later became known that they were residents of Yatar who for the pasi two weeks had been

building a water tank in the

Prime Minister Shimon Peres subsequently admitted they had been killed by mistake and said Israel regretted the incident. This message was relayed to the US, reportedly with a warning that Israel would respond harshly if Hizbullah retaliated as it has in the past with Katyusha attacks on the Galilee.

The message was relayed to the Syrians with an urgent request to them to curh Hizbullah and prevent an escalation. Hizbullah responded with three Katyusha

OC Northern Command Maj .-Gen. Amiram Levine yesterday visited a huilding in Kiryat Shmona hit by one of the rockets and came under criticism from residents over the "lack of an

harsh response.' Levine stressed that Hizbullah had on at least five occasions fired anti-tank missiles and mortars at IDF and South Lehanese Army targets in the zone from the same spot on the outskirts of Yatar that was hit on Saturday.

"The Lehanese announced that [those killed] were civilians. We will be able to give an official answer when we have finished investigating the matter," Levine

Levine said he was not aware of any apology having heen made. "What's important is what As darkness fell last night, many residents of the North were expected to sleep again in shelters and security rooms as a

# First crash of Yasur in 6 years

AN Israel Air Force Yasur 2000 transport helicopter crashed during a training mission in the Judean Desert yesterday afternoon, plummeting from less than 100 feet and killing seven of the nine people aboard.

OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger said it was too early to tell if the accident was a result of a technical malfunction or human error. He ordered an investigation.

Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres last night expressed sorrow at the loss of life and sent condolences to the

It was the first crash in six years involving a Yasur, an upgraded US-made Sikorsky CH-53, considered a relatively sturdy craft.
The helicopter was taking part

in a routine exercise dropping off soldiers and had just put down a squad and taken off when it apparently lost power and crashed.
It burst into flames and was total-

ly destroyed.

The pilot, Maj. Eyal Gelh, 32, of Ramat Gan; co-pilot, Capt. Ofer Schwartz, 25, of Rishon Lezion; flight technician, St.-Sgt.-Maj. David Weizman, 40; and three soldiers - Cpl. Gny Shafir, 20, of Kiryat Ono; Cpl. Liat Fildo, 20; of Karmiel; and Cpl. Doron Ezra, 20, of Rishon Le-zion – were killed instantly, Bo-

dinger said. Cpl. Inbal Tavisi, 20, of Petah Tikva, who was apparently vidcotaping the exercise, died of her injuries in the hospital, he said. Two other soldiers, who were in the tail of the helicopter, suffered hight injuries, Bodinger said.

It was the first fatal military crash since August, when an F-15 collided with storks, killing the two airmen aboard.

The crash occurred about two kilometers west of Mitzpeh Shalem, near the Dead Sea. Another eye-contact when the crash occurred, Bodinger said. He said the second helicopter was forced to land hy a mechanical problem. Bodinger dismissed any link between the malfunction of the

second helicopter and the one which crashed, saying helicopters routinely land if even a minor malfunction occurs.

"There was nothing special about this exercise. The helicopter simply dropped off one squad and was to have dropped off two others elsewhere," he said.

He said the Yasur had been equipped with the latest avionics as part of the IAF's plan to upgrade the 1960s-vintage aircraft. Bodinger, who visited the crash site, said there were no clouds and that visibility was clear. He said that wind velocity was normal and that the Yasur had not been carrying any load other than the soldiers.

'We don't know what happened at this moment," Bodinger said. "[The Yasur] took off and didn't appear to have attained much altitude when it dived and hit the ground. It only reached some 50 to 100 feet."

Pilot Gelh had 13 years' experience flying helicopters, and Schwartz, the co-pilot, six, Bodinger said. He said that while the Yasur

did not have a black box, the crew's conversations were taped, and teams were searching the wreckage for scraps of the recordings.

"If these recordings survived, then we can get information from them. You can find out information from tiny bits, and it is very interesting to see this," he said.

He said the investigators would work through the night if needed, using spotlights to illuminate the crash site in a rush to get at least an indication why the Yasur

"The task of the IAF investigation into the accident is to find out as quickly as possible what happened, even if the investiga-tion is not complete," he said. Bodinger said the initial inves-

for the entire fleet of Yasurs. "The only information we have survivors and the other helicopter which saw the crash," he said. "From now on, everything else we know will come from the

tigation could have ramifications

# Hurvitz indicted for fraud

Jerusalem Post Staff

INDICTMENTS against three businessmen connected with the former Teva subsidiary Promedico, and against the company itself, charging tens of millions of dollars in tax fraud were presented in Jerusalem District Court vesterday.

State Attorney Edna Arbel ordered that Teva CEO Eli Hurvitz, who headed Promedico from 1980 until 1986, Benjamin Jesselson, and Alexander Eisenberg be indicted after meeting several times with their

The charges against the three relate to concealing income and keeping fraudulent books.

According to the indictment, during the 1980s, Promedico, which imports and markets pharmaceuticals, set up a straw company to conceal income and avoid paying Israeli taxes.

Charges against the three husinessmen relate only to the period they were associated with the firm: Hurvitz until 1987, when Teva sold the company; Jesselson beginning in that year; and Eisenberg until 1993.

Teva's board of directors yesterday released a statement expressing full support for Hurvitz and saying he would continue to manage the company with the talent and loyalty he has displayed until now.



# Diplomat warns of Sharon plan that impinges on PA control

3HOULD the Likud win the election, it will take measures that will impinge upon Palestin-ian control of the territories without prior consultation, including strengthening settlements and launching preemp-tive raids into Palestinian cities to root out terrorists, MK Ariel Sharon is reported to have told a

Western diplomat recently. Another diplomat warned that if Sharon's plan is adopted, it would have dire consequences, bringing about the downfall of the Palestinian Authority and the collapse of the Isracli-Palestinian peace

Sharon's reported remarks are heing taken seriously beof his strong second-place fi-nish in the Likud primaries last

"Beyond pouring government resources into the settlements, Sharon gave no indication that new settlements would be huilt," the second diplomat

Efforts to contact Sharon last night proved unsuccessful.

Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu has said that "security will remain in Israeli hands," and that Israel will "maintain the freedom of action" to go anywhere for this purpose. However, Netanyahu has, for the most part, avoided specifics, and Sharon's statements mark the first known Likud elahoration of its security princi-

When contacted for a response last night, an aide to Netanyahu said all the principles enumerated by Sharon "sound right, including strengthening settlements. There is no differ-

ence between us." He also noted that regardless

DAVID MAKOVSKY of military actions, "neither Netanyahu nor Sharon want to reconquer Jenin, Nablus, or Gaza. We are dedicated not just to fighting terrorism, but also pursuing peace.'

Sharon reportedly told the foreign diplomat that the Likud would be guided hy the following principles: A Likud government would

set up two parallel "security helts" in the territories running parallel along the Jordan River and along the West Bank side of the Green Line which would hoth he run by Israel.

It remained unclear how the unilateral establishment of such security zones would impact upon some existing designated rural areas, known as Area B under the Oslo accords, where the Palestinians are supposed to have a modicum of control.

In the past, Sharon has been the champion of the "cantons plan," which favors IDF control over islands of Palestinian autonomous areas centered in the Palestinian cities.

• The IDF will feel free to stage

preemptive raids into Palestinian cities (Area A) to root out terrorists, without prior consultation with the PA.

In contrast, the Peres government has studiously avoiding raids into the cities, instead focusing on Area B and the other 70 percent of the West Bank, Area C, which remains under

Israeli control. If Palestinians continue to refuse to extradite suspects, Israel will reserve the right to take them itself, using force.

 All Palestinians institutions in Jerusalem will be closed, a position which has been echoed by Netanyahu. In contrast, Peres pledged to

the late Norwegian foreign minister Johan Jorgen Holst that non-PA institutions could remain open. "If Israel rolls back the Palestinian track, the world will react accordingly. This will sour Isra-

el's relations with Jordan, and hurt the Syrian track. I am afraid Israel will pay a hroad economic price and lose a good measure of the dramatic international acceptance it has won thanks to the peace process,' the second diplomat warned.

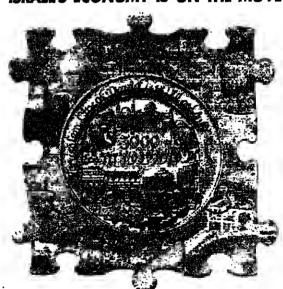
### **CLASSIFIED DEADLINES**

Please note that the deadline for classified ads to be published on Wednesday, April 3, (Erev Pessah) is Tuesday at noon.

> The deadline for Friday, April 5, is Tuesday at 4 p.m.

> The Advertising Department

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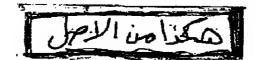
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THE cabinet decided yesterday to appoint a team to examine ways tn ease the closure nf the

The team is headed by Internal Security Minister Mushe Shahal and includes Environment Minister Ynssi Sarid, Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tzur, and Deputy Defense Minister Ori Orr. The group held its first warking session immediately after the cahinet meeting. Issues to be discussed include ways to ease the entry of medications, fond, and goods. Shahal is to present the team's recommendations hy

Wednesday. At the cahinet meeting, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said he supports a limited easing of the closure, because continuing the closure in its current state is liable to be a greater danger than allowing in a few hundred LIAT COLLINS

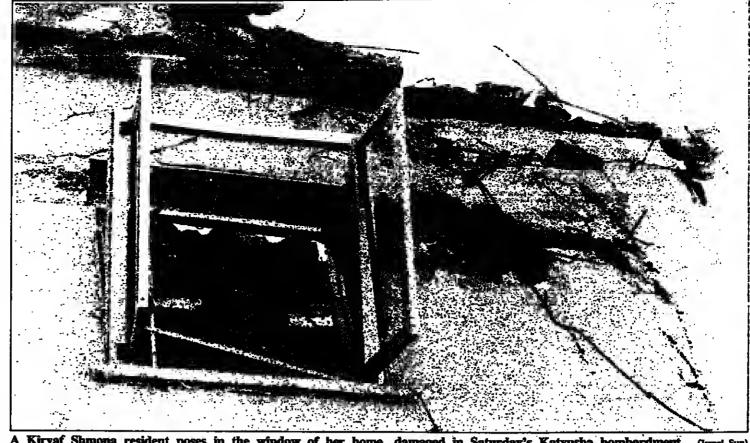
MK Haggai Mernm (Lahor). head of the Knesset Foreign and Defense Affairs Committee, said yesterday that the cinsure must continue. Merom, knnwo to he a dnve, rejected criticism of the closure in a B'tselem report due out today saying, "Israel can't afford to allow anyone in without checking them. Our enemies in Hamas and Islamic Jihad won't stop at anything."

Responding to a charge that a pregnant woman gave birth to stillhorn twins after heing delayed at a check pnint, Merom said: "The whole situation is shocking, hut with enemies like Hamas and Islamic Jihad we have to check everyhody, even a pregnant woman, to make sure they are not terrorists who want to hlow

themselves up with 50 or 60 people in the center of Tel Aviv. It's a difficult situatinn. But from what I can see in the report, there is nothing new.

"I would have hoped that the B'tselem repnrt would include the numbers of Israeli dead and wounded, including the seriously wounded who have also lost their livelihoods. From this point of view, the report is not halanced," he added.

"Although I'm a dove I feel we can't carry on the peace process and achieve our aims of peace and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people if the terror continues," he said. "All the measures ahout which the report complains were taken to halt the terror. I hope that afterwards we'll he able to continue in the direction of peace which I so believe in.



# UN optimistic worst of closure is over

UN Special Coordinator for the Territories Terje Larsen expressed optimism last night that the "most damaging aspects of the closure in Gaza may soon be hehind us," and measures will shortly he in place providing a minimal social security net for

Last Thursday. Secretary of State Warren Christopher aonounced that he woo agreement hy Israel to ease aspects of the closure, including the eotry of goods and materials

Not only has Israel allowed imports into Gaza, but Larsen said Israel has just given its consect for Palestinians to begin exporting goods to Jordan and Egypt via Israeli-escorted convoys. Israel has already said

DAVID MAKOVSKY

it would allow such convoys to go to Ashdod Port.

Israel has hegun allowing the export of flowers, textiles, and vegetables, sources say. It remains unclear whether Israel will allow the volume of exports to accelerate quickly to the maximum amount, which constitutes 75 percent of the total Gazan exports.

Larsen sounded confident that impediments to imports are being removed hy Israel. "The import of food, medicine, and cement ioto Gaza means things are oow moving io the right direction," he said.

He predicted that the renewed importing of cement will allow Gaza's coostructioo

industry to quickly revive to its pre-closure level of some 23,000 workers.

Furthermore, he said he expects foreign donations to create at least 15,000 more public works johs in Gaza initiated by the deputy directorgeneral of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development

Reconstruction (PECDAR), Nahil Sharif. The UN is seeking fresh contributions by the ioternational community for public works and other forms of economic assistance.

Larseo has been shuttling between Prime Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairmao Yasser Arafat in a bid to ensure coosent on all the details of the emergeocy assistance plan.

# Northern residents emerge from another night in bomb shelters

RESIDENTS of towns and villages along the northern border yesterday morning emerged from a night spent in bomb shelters and security rooms following three salvoes of Hizbullah Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee late Satur-

There were no serious casualties. Only one resident of Kiryat Shmona was very lightly hurt, and she did not require hospitalization.

Several apartments in the town were damged by a Katyusha which glanced off the roof of the building and exploded on the ground. Windows io several of the apartments in the three-story huilding were shattered. Amidar, the government housing company, decided to provide alternative accommodation for a woman whose home was badly damaged.

Rafi Even-Tzur has lived in Kiryat Shmona for 41 of his 50 years. He has no desire to live anywhere else. Like the rest of the town's DAVID RUDGE

20,000 residents, however, he would like some peace and quiet and the opportunity to lead a normal life for ourselves and our families.

"I'm not talking for myself so much as for the children who feel the strain more and also suffer more emotionally. This kind of situation is not good for anybody, especially not for

"The alert is sounded. You wait and then you hear the rockets, but you don't know where they are going to fall, on what address."

Even-Tzur, who works at Kiryat Shmona's fledgling airport, said that life in the town came to a standstill from the time the alert was sounded on Saturday evening. Residents were told to stay in shelters and security rooms.

The same instructions were given to residents of all towns and villages along the border. "We

had intended to go out and do some shoppin for Pessah. Instead, we were stuck at home. and everything was closed, the shops, the cafes, businesses, factories, and the airport," he said. "The situation cannot go on like this for any

longer. People are fed up. Okay, maybe we did kill two Lebanese civilians by mistake, but that should not mean that we are automatically buildiparded and whole communities close

"This situation of doing nothing when Hizbullah and its leaders decide to do whatever they want, when they want, does not suit us, nor the IDF, nor the country.

"Residents here are prepared to stay in bomb shelters for two weeks or more if necessary - if we know we can get some peace and quiet afterward. It's certainly better than carrying on as normal, without knowing when or where the next attack will be," he added.

## Nablus residents slam PA for raid on students

THE Palestioiao Authority vesterday began investigation ordered by Chairman Yasser Arafat into Saturday's violent break-up of a student protest at An-Najah University in Nahlus by

Palestinian policemeo. There is

growing criticism of the police action by Nablus resideots. Two studeots remained hospitalized yesterday with gunshot wounds they received when policemeo opeoed fire, according to Palestician sources. They said 10 others

who were injured, appareotly by and released. "The Palestinian Anthority is actiog worse than the Israelis under the occupation," said Khader Shkirat, director of the Land and Water Establishment,

a leading Palestinian advocacy and human rights group. Shkirat said Israel would

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Kfar Shmaryahu Cemetery on Tuesday,

April 2, 1996, at 5 p.m.

The grandchildren, great-grandchildren,

Ronny and Ephraim Leviner

and family

**BILL HUTMAN** 

refrain from entering the campus, while the PA rejected calls by the school's administration to stay ontside.
"The [Palestinian] police showed no respect for the law and no respect for democracy," Shkirat said.

The Fatah students uoioo issued a statement stroogly condemning the police actioo and calling for an independent investigation, saying the PA committee includes figures who were behind the police action.

Those the studeots want off the committee include Nablus police chief Sadeh Najeh and district goveroor Mahmoud Both allegedly commanded the taid against what they saw as a gatheriog of pro-Hamas students.

Student leaders, bowever, said the rally iocluded all

factions and was aimed at protestiog the arrest of several hundred students by the Palestinian Police following the recent Hamas terror attacks.

Laod and Establishment researchers began ioterviewing witnesses yesterday, and according to oitial findings the police violence was unprovoked and brutal, Shkirat said.

The researchers have also gathered testimony on the beating of and stripping of cameras from Palestinian and foreign journalists covering the eveot, Shkirat added.

Palestioiao sources said resideots' accusations of excessive force by Nablus policemeo is oot oew. Residents are also uobappy most policemeo are from Gaza or outside the territories, sayiog they are out of touch with life in

Jordanian army

chief here on

official visit

JORDANIAN Chief of Staff

Gen. Abdul-Hafez Murei-Kaab-

neh, flanked hy Chief of General

Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, strode into the Defense

Ministry yesterday on the first of-

ficial visit by a commander of an

Kaahneh hrought top Jordani-an army hrass with him on his

two-day visit, which will reportedly coordinate cooperation be-

This is Kaabneh's first official

visit, but he attended Yitzhak Ra-

bin's funeral last November as part

of the Jordanian delegation. Yes-

terday, he met with Prime Minis-

ter and Defense Minister Shimon

Peres, in a statement released hy the Defense Ministry, said

that Israel is ready for security

and military cooperation with

Jordan, and any suggestions

raised in connection with this will

be considered in a positive spir-

Arieh O'Sullivan

Peres at his Tel Aviv office.

tween the two armies.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres yesterday urged Labor's campaign heads to stop bickering and unite to lead the party to victory in the elections.

Speaking at the party's central committee meeting, Peres also called oo the committee to do whatever is occessary to place a representative of the new immigrants from the former Soviet Unioo io a realistic slot on La-

Adissu Massala of Ethiopia was elected in Labor's primaries to the slot reserved for a oew immigrant, leaving the Russian immigrants without representatioo oo the list.

Peres said "one mistake has been made which must be rectified immediately, concerning the representation of the immigrants from Russia and the former communist states. I am very sorry that this immigration failed to receive adequate representation and recommend to correct it, even if it means calling the party convention to approve it. I am certaio that if we amend this injustice, many who came from Russia and east European countries would want to vote for Labor. We must not hinder them

from voting for us." A Labor-conducted survey inmigrants would want to see a represectative of theirs in Labor's

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli called on Peres to appoint a new immigrant to a ministerial post in his cabinet, if he wins the elections.

The festive atmosphere at the committee meeting, planned to sum up the primaries and kick-off of the election campaign, was marred by confrontations among the party's campaign heads.

The tension increased over the weekend, when Finance Minister Avraham Shohat accused the information campaign head, Interior Minister Haim Ramoo, of trying to revive the camps and factions in Labor, after Ramoo convened "the group of eight" -Ramon's supporting MKs.

Another source of tension derived from Ramoo's charges that campaign chairman Hous-ing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer had ordered Ramoo's name erased from lists of recommeoded candidates Ben-Eliezer's supporters issued in the primaries.

Health Minister Ephraim Sneh and other Labor seniors also claimed that Ben-Eliezer had worked against them in the pridenied all the accusations.

# Peres tells party campaign leaders to stop infighting

bor's Knesset list.

dicates that 38% of Russian im-

# maries. Beo-Eliezer vehemently Religious parties still talking

HERB KEINON

about forming united front

WITH 10 days remaining until parties have to present their Knesset lists to the registrar, the religious parties are still deciding who is going to run with whom. While leaders of Shas, Agudat Yisrael, and the National Religious Party were meeting last might to try to forge a united religious front, Degel Hatorah's political executive was meeting tn decide whether to renew its one-

term coalition with Aguda. Degel Hatorab MK Avraham Ravitz, when asked what will be, said with a chuckle, "We still have 10 days left." Historically, party lists in the haredi circles are made up at the last minute.
The NRP's Zevulun Hammer,

Shas's Aryeh Deri, and Agudat Yisrael's Moshe Ze'ev Feldman met with activists from a group called Supporters of a United Rcligious Front. Participants said the meeting gave a needed push to the unity effort.

Hammer and Deri came out strongly in favor of the merger. while Feldman promised an answer, nr mnre questions, from his party's rahbis this evening.

Degel Hatorah, whose rabbis have been lukewarm to the unity idea, was absent from the meet ing. NRP spokesman Yitzhak Rath said one of the questions the NRP, Shas, and Aguda will have to decide is whether to merge even if Degel does not. The three leaders were shown

polls showing a united religious front could win 20 to 26 seats, making it unlikely a coalition could be formed witbout it. They said the front would place religious issues high on the nation's agenda, giving them equal prominence with the peace process.

Regarding a renewal of Degel's merger with Agudat Yisrael mtn the United Torah Judaism Party, Ravitz said the party executive decided last night "to stand

its ground."

Degel has for munths heen demanding parity on the United Torah Judaism List, receiving two of the four safe slots predicted in most surveys.

Aguda has said it will agree to parity, if Degel gives up its party institutions and its daily newspaper. Yated Ne'eman.

## Moledet chooses Knesset list

SARAH HONGE

William and THE Moledet council yesterday elected Rabbi Benny Eloo and Meshulam Amit to follow MK Rehavam Ze'evi ou the party's new

Elon is a leader of the Zo Artzenu protest movement, and Amit is a Jerusalem city councilman and former Border Police commander. The council members bickered over whether to allow Amit to run, as he had not been a Moledet member for at least a year, as the party rules require. Ze'evi advocated a special exemption. This triggered infightiog among the council members, and the issue was only settled by a vote.



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### Writer and art and film critic of The Jerusalem Post. One of the first members of the administrative staff of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Monday, April 1, 1996, at 3 p.m.

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of our beloved aunt

SADIE SARAH WILKINSON

She will be laid to rest at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery today, A bus will depart from the front of the Tel Aviv Museum,

Sderot Shaui Hamelech 27 at 1:45 p.m. Tamara, Lesiie, David and Adam Weisberg

> Judy Levin Orgei, Kadish and Levin families

# Ex-taxman held for forgery.

RAINE MARCUS

A FORMER customs and VAT investigator, suspected of using forged identity eards to open bank accounts, to start companies, and to defraud authorities out of tens of thousands of shekels, was remanded for four days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Ron Grunland, owner of a Tel Aviv plastics company, was arrested Friday at his home and taken to his office, where investigators found a forged identity card, forged invoices, and other identity cards.

Requesting a 12-day remand, customs and VAT investigator Rafi Gabai told the court Grunland took advantage of procedures he had learned to artificially inflate his firm's turnover and thus fraudulently demand additional VAT refunds.

At his office investigators found an identity card in the name of someone currently abroad, but bearing Grunland's photograph. Gabai said Grunland used the ID to open a bank account and a straw company, which he used to fraudulently obtain VAT rebates.

Scores of other identity cards, "with accessories to forge them," were also seized in Grunland's office together with ledgers and invoices. Under questioning, Grunland denied all allegations and said another man, whom he could not describe, gave him the identity

Defense lawyer Sassy Gez told the court his client "has a clean record and denies all allegations. He will not disrupt further investi-

Judge Gideon Neutal remanded Grunland for four days, "because of evidence found in his office and the severity of the allegations." Sources said police are expected to intervene in the probe regarding the forged identity cards, and that customs and VAT authorities would continue to investigate allegations of financial fraud.



Outbound passengers wait to check in yesterday at Ben-Gurion Airport. The Airports Authority announced that some 40,000 travelers entered and left the country over the past 24 hours on 227 flights.

(Shaul Rahamim)

# NRP opposes passage of basic laws

THE National Religious Party is opposing the planned passage of three basic laws during the Knesset recess, before the elections

"It is unacceptable that such significant laws, which could have such an influence on life and society, should be passed hastily, without public debate or full knowledge and deliberation," an NRP spokesman said yesterday, after the

party's Knesset faction met to discuss the issue. The NRP and hared parties opposed the bills when they came up j. the Knesset just before the recess for fear they would be used by the High Court to circumvent laws affecting reli-

gious issues. The bills are being pushed by Law Committee chairman Dedi Zucker (Meretz). In a statement put out after the meeting, the NRP called on Prime Minister Shimon Peres and opposition leader Binyamin Netanyahu not to take part in what it called "a political grab which cannot increase respect for the Knesset or its work. The NRP will support the promotion of civil rights, while maintaining the Knesset's standing as the supreme legislative body and preserving the religious status quo."

The NRP said the basic laws would harm the Knesset's sovereignty by granting the High Court the means of overruling legislation, although "the court has not been elected by the people and its composition does not reflect all sectors of society, unlike the Knesset." The NRP refuses to see the basic laws as a constitution, unless they include a Basic Law: The [Religious] Status Quo, which has passed preliminary reading.

The party is also calling for the issue of a constitutional court to be clarified before the completion of the rest of the basic laws.

# SCHWARTZ ATTENDING THE DIRECTOR TO THE DIRECTOR THE DIREC sentenced to 18 months

YRARSIL

THE Northern District Military Court yesterday senteoced Arye Schwartz to 18 months in prison, plus 18 months suspended, and reduced his rank from staffsergeant to private. Schwartz had previously confessed to and been convicted of taking weapons from the army and giving them to Haggai and Yigal Amir.

The sentence was part of a plea bargain in which Schwartz agreed to confess if the prosecution dropped charges that the stolen weapons were to be used to attack Arabs. Schwartz was arrested after an arms cache was found at the Amir home following the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. Most of the

stolen weapons had been returned to Schwartz by the Amirs before the murder. Schwartz said that he had decided

to return the weapons in May,

after Yigal Amir, with whom he had studied at the Kerem Diyavne Yeshiva, asked him to procure more weapons for Haggai. He said the request disturbed him. Schwartz's lawyer, Daniel Friedman, stressed that his client's crimes were in no way connected to the assassination, and prosecutor Capt. Orly Yaron agreed, saying the prosecution had no evidence of a connection between the defendant and the

# Friedman released from prison

HERB KEINON

ARYEH Friedman, a Jerusalem rabhinic pleader placed in administrative detention in January, was released from Sharon Prison yesterday, 10 days before his three-month term was to expire.

Friedman was the last Jew beld in administrative detention. Mordechai Mintzer, who represented Friedman in appeals before the Jerusalem District Court and later the Supreme Court, said that to this day neither he nor his client knows why he was held. Friedman's appeals were rejected, though Supreme Court Justice Zvi Tal recommended that his term be substantially cut. Mintzer said that 10 days can in no way be considered a "significant" reduction.

Friedman, 50, lived in Kiryat Arba for a few years before returning to Jerusalem last year. The state argued during the appeals that be was a danger to state security. The small amount of unclassified material in the case centered around extremist statements Friedman allegedly made in

Friedman's release comes three days after Supreme Court Justice Dalia Drooer overturned the administrative detention of Rabbi Yitzhak Ginsburgh, bead of the Od Yosef Hai Ysehiva in Nablus, saying there was no basis for holding him. This was the first time that an administrative detention order was overturned for anything but technical reasons.

# **HUC** gets ministry funds for rabbinical students

IN what the Reform movement described as "an act of peniteoce," the Religious Affairs

full-time rabbinical students, fol-lowing a ruling by the High Court of Justice that subsidies for yeshiva students should also go to those studying at the Reform rabbinical seminary.

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC), said the payment was to have set-

Ministry transferred almost NIS

Ministry transferred almost NIS

tied accounts for payments for 500,000 to Hebrew Union 1993, 1994, and 1995. The ministry made a payment of over NIS

The money is for subsidies for 200,000 in October 1994, but had delayed paying the remainder in the related for the remainder in the remainder in the related for the remainder in the related for the remainder in the related for the remainder in the r what Regev described as bureao-

> They actually or e another another NIS 200,000, but I am ready to believe that this is due to a genuine accounting error on their part," Regev said.

cratic obstructionism.

IRAC spokesperson Anat Galili-Blum said the ministry and HUC had agreed on a formula whereby subsidies for HUC students would be 85 percent of those paid for yeshiva students, with payments for 11 months a year. Students who worked would not be entitled to the subsidies, she said.

Regev said that following the settlement of its own claims, the IRAC would now fight to see that the Conservative movement's Institute of Judaic Studies received similar payments for its students. Meanwhile, in a related devel-

opment, the IRAC for the third time petitioned the High Court of Justice against the Jerusalem Municipality, in an effort to force city council to approve the Reform and Conservative candidates nominated by Meretz for the Jerusalem Religious Council.

The IRAC also asked the court to charge the city council mem-bers personally for court costs. The IRAC argued that in the past the court had charged the Jerusalem Municipality for costs, but since this came out of the publie purse the move had no effect on the members of the coalition.

# Israel Police helped obtain conviction in Cyprus murder case

DEP.-CMDR. Yossi Almog.

in Cyprus by British soldiers.

"I knew immediately the Cypriot police would be calling on us for belp," Almog told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

months later, be said be has the satisfaction of knowing that the Israel Police helped ensure a conviction in the case, which drew international attention.

court handed down life sentences to the three British sol-

clothes shortly after the September 1994 murder.

The victim's body, however, was returned to Denmark and buried hefore blood samples could be taken.

Cyprus police called on their counterparts here for help, and a team of experts from Almog's department - the Division of

head of the police forensics department, remembers turning on the television io 1994 and hearing about the brutal rape and murder of a Danish woman

He was right, and now, 18

Over the weekend, a Larnaca

diers for the murder of the Danish tour guide on the island.
The soldiers denied the charges, despite being caught by police with hlood stains on their

**BILL HUTMAN** Ideotification and Forensics Science (DIFS) - went to

Cyprus.
"Our people used DNA testing on the victim's parents to show beyond a doubt that the blood on the soldiers was hers," Almog said.

Some of the tests were done at the forensics biology lab at Israel Police headquarters in Jerusalem.

Two DIFS officers, Supts. Nira Galili and Paul Brauner, gave expert testimony before the Larnaca court during the trial, which was crucial io obtaining the conviction, according to Almog.

"Foreosics divisions all over the world work in cooperation, Almog said.

"We are experts in certain fields where others calls on us for help, while we get help from other countries in areas we lag

bebind." Almog said relations were particularly close with the Cypriot police, and he has met on several occasions with his

counterpart there. 'lt'a in everyone's interest that we work closely together,"

Almog said.

# 64 lessons now needed for tractor-trailer license

HAIM SHAPIRO

THOSE seeking to become tractor-trailer drivers must take 64 driving lessons before they can take a test to qualify for a license, according to regulations which are to go into effect on June 1.

The Transport Ministry said yesterday that it is instituting the new regulations because of the increasing number of accidents involving trucks.

In 1995, there were 20 percent more fatal accidents involving trucks than in 1994, with 121

people killed, compared to 101 the previous year.

The ministry noted that heavy trucks, those weighing more than 34 tons, are involved in

fatal accidents twice as often as

buses and four times as often as

According to the new regulations, those without a driver's license will need a minimum of 32 lessons - of at least 40 minutes each - to drive a truck under 15 tons, while those who possess a license will need 20 additional lessons to obtain a

tractor-trailer license. An additional 20 lessons are needed to go from a light truck to one over 15 tons, while a license for a tractor-trailer involves 12 more lessons.

At each stage, the driver will have to pass theoretical and practical tests, according to Transport Ministry spokesman Avner Ovadia.

# Histadrut move to Jerusalem begins

MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Histadrut's move to Jerusalem began yesterday, as the office equipment and files of its treasury, organization section, and computer unit were loaded onto trucks and dispatched to the Histadrut's new home in the capi-

completed by the end of Pessah. The workers will follow a few days after.

The initial deadline for the deal

was yesterday, but the entrepre-

funding to the newspaper.

tal's Givat Shaul. The move is expected to be

another development, Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz yesterday issued an ultimatum to the Zinger-Barnea investment house over negotiations for the purchase of the Davar Rishon daily. Peretz announced that if the final agreement for purchasing the paper is not signed by the end of the month, he will cut off all

neurs' recent idea to merge Davar Rishon with the Telegraph financial daily caused a delay in the

The Histadrut had dropped its plan to close the newspaper at the last moment, when Zinger-Barnea offered to purchase it. Now Peretz fears that if the deal falls through and Davar Rishon closes after all, it would create the impression that the Histadrut had prevented its closure for political reasons.





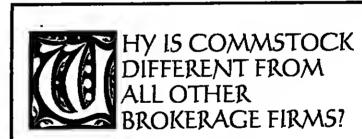
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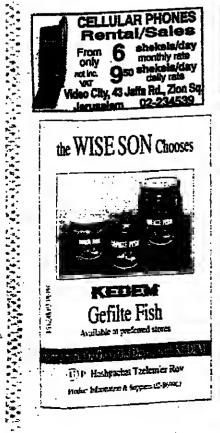
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A Russian army APC passes between a burned apartment building and another burned APC in Grozny yesterday.

# Yeltsin halts combat in Chechnya

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin announced that Russian combat operations in the breakaway region of Chechnya was ceasing at midnight last night and the phased withdrawal of troops would begin.

In a television address announcing the withdrawal to the nation last night Yestsin said "anti-terrorist operations" would continue. He

"The Chechen crisis is Russia's biggest problem...

According to the program. on the 31st of March at midnight. combat operations on the territory of Chechnya will cease and multistage withdrawal of federal troops from calm regions to administrative borders will start."

"I want to emphasize that military actions have helped create the necessary preconditions for a radical change in the situation.

"A stage-by-stage withdrawl of federal forces from quiet reglous of Chechnya to its administrative borders is beginning. The plan for the redistribution of troops has News agencies MOSCOW

"At the same time the Chechen leadership will pursue efforts to extend zones of conciliation, security and peace in the Chechen republic. Today they account for up to two-thirds of its territory."

But, the president said, the security of Russian people must be provided for, "We will not reconcile ourselves to terrorist acts and they will receive an adequate response." Yeltsin said.

He said halting combat operations and withdrawing troops were not a substitute for the political process of ending the war that has dragged on since December 1994. The second task is to prepare

and hold free democratic elections to the republic's parliament throughout Chechnya, the parliament in which the interests of the entire population should be represented," be said.

Yeltsin's hopes of re-election on

June 16 may hinge on whether he can persuade voters the war is

winding down. His plan was similar to one offered by the Kremlin in January 1995 when the president's Security Council declared military operations effectively over and a second stage, with emphasis on talks, had begun.

That plan failed when talks broke down and the rebels renewed their bloody campaign. Gennady Zyuganov, Yeltsin's

main rival for the presidency, also said he bad plans to bring the Checben conflict to an end, Like Yeltsin, the Communist Party leader said troops must be withdrawn from quiet regions, the Interfax news agency report-Further, he said, a 24-bour-a-

day coordinating group must be set up in Moscow and that Chechen leaders - village elders;

mullas and leaders of clans - must be involved in settling the conflict, the Interfax news agency

On the eve of his speech. Yeltsin said his plan would go into effect immediately. "As soon as I speak, the realization of the plan begins." he said at a ceremony honoring Interior Ministry troops.

Yeltsin said negotiations will have a central role in the plan, but the plan "will show no mercy to terrorists."

As Yeltsin prepared to address the nation. Russian troops continued their offensive to isolate rebel fighters in southeastern Chechnya.

Large scale operations were carried out vesterday in the Vedeno and Nazhai-Yurt districts where federal troops have sealed off eight mountain villages, ITAR-Tass said.

The Interfax news agency reported that Russian positions came under fire 15 times since Saturday, including seven attacks in the capital, Grozny.

# Moslems, Croats announce new pacts

SARAJEVO (AP) - Aiming to breathe new life into their ailing federation, Moslems and Croats agreed yesterday on a plan to

impose control on local warlords. They also agreed on a new cus-toms union to finance their federation and a flag to represent it.
"We have a motto for the month

of April, which is 'deeds not words'," said Michael Steiner, the deputy to the international community's top civilian official in Bosnia, Carl Bildt. The federation, the cornerstone

of the US-brokered peace agreement for Bosnia, has never functioned. It has been a victim of war profiteers, nationalist politicians whose power rests on ethnic division, and lingering distrust between Moslems and Croats who

fought a year-long war.

Announcing the new agreement, with federation Vice President Ejup Ganic at his side, Steiner said: "I have no illusions that we have still a long and difficult way to go. That's how politics are.

Ganic called the agreement "a step forward" and said the customs union was especially critical because it is the foundation for the federation's financial institu-

The customs union means that all duties collected at federation borders will be divided. Western diplomatic sources said two-thirds of the revenue would go to the federation and one-third to the Bosnian government.

Currently, local warlords run checkpoints across federation territory and often collect "customs fees" to pass their territory. The agreement stipulates that these checkpoints should be climinated. The agreement also sets target dates for the implementation of key policies to make the federation work, such as preparation of a budget and establishment of a

And for the first time, it imposes

meet the deadlines, naming people responsible for specific tasks and

saying they will be fired if they fail.
Towns and regions in federation
territory that do not comply with
the agreement face a cutoff of all econstruction aid.

Steiner said the agreement would allow an international summit, originally scheduled for last Thursday, to go ahead in Petersburg, Germany, sometime in April. That summit was expected to discuss how to merge Croat and Moslem police and cut the overall force from about 60,000 to

The federation leaders also agreed on a flag with a thin red stripe on top, a wide white band and a thin green stripe on the bottom, with a red-and-green national coat of arms that combines the fily of Moslem Bosnia and the checkerboard of Croatia. The federation parliament must approve

# farm ministers meet

BRUSSELS (AP) - With the European Union ready to belp rescue Britain's beef industry, EU farm ministers must translate that commitment into effective policies so the ban on British beef exports can be lift-

The farm ministers have scheduled an emergency meeting in Luxembourg today in bopes of easing the worldwide mad cow panic. EU leaders pledged full solidarity with British Prime Minister John Major at a summit Friday.

At the farm meeting in Luxembourg, Britain, critical of the EU ban on British beef exports, will seek to end the measure as quickly as possible, claiming there was no rational basis for the blanket ban.

"Obviously it is a major objective of ours to get the ban lifted, but we've got a lot of work to do," British Agriculture Minister Douglas Hogg said. He already banned meat sales from older cattle and imposed stricter monitoring of animals.

But more drastic British measures likely will be

necessary to overturn the ban. The farm ministers are likely to assess new British proposals to eradicate mad cow disease, a deadly brain ailment that has

been linked to an equally fatal human strain.
French Farm Minister Philippe Vasseur said over

the weekend be is ready to support the slaughter of the entire British beef herd if necessary to wipe out the disease and restore consumer confidence.

"If scientists say that the only solution is to slaughter all British livestock, I for one will be ready. Vasseur said.

But whatever happens, London can count on finan-

Hogg said he "detected a willingness (from the EU) to show real financial solidarity" with the embattled British beef farmers, following a preparatory meeting with EU Farm Commissioner Franz

In Turin, Italy, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Germany had been able to count on similar EU assistance when swine fever swept his nation a few years.

Ridding Britain of mad cow disease will be costly. Preliminary estimates start at \$4 billion and shoot up, depending on the number of cattle that would be

# Conductor Enrique Jorda, 84

BRUSSELS (AP) – Basque-bom music director Enrique Jorda, who conducted many of the great orchestras around the world, has died, his family said yesterday.

Jorda, 84, a naturalized American citizen who was music director of the San Francisco Symptony from 1954 to 1963, died after a two-month illness and complications from a blood transfusion.

He had been music director of the Madrid Symphony Orchestra, the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra and the Antwerp Philharmonic, and had been guest conductor in many of the world's greatest concert halls.

During his stay in San Francisco, he took special care to highlight a lot of works of local composers. He also brought classical music outside the concert hall and played in a local prison. His openness for new musical influences lead him to stage a classical jazz concert with Dave

He became a US citizen in 1963. "He admired the country and had hoped to go back there one day." said his widow, Audrey. But the itinerant life prevailed and be spent most of his time in

Europe and settled in Brussels. Born in San Sebastian, Spain, he took up music at 5. He left to study in Paris and, after the Spanish civil war refused to return to the Franco regime.

After the war, he went to Cape Town but decided to leave after six years because of his opposition to apartheid. "He was very outspoken and insisted everyone be allowed to attend his concerts," Mrs. Jorda said.

# Atlantis lands after historic Mir voyage

CAPE CANAVERAL (Reuter) -Space sbuttle Atlantis landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California yesterday after leaving an American on the Russian space station Mir to establish a permanent US presence in space.

The shuttle touched down at 8:29 a.m. to end the 10-day voyage to deliver US astronaut Sbannon Lucid to the Russian space station.

Welcome back. Atlantis. Congratulations on successfully delivering Shannon and successfully completing the first approach and landing from the new mission control centre," said capsule commander Bill Gregory at mission control in Houston. "It sure feels good to he home,

Bill," sbuttle commander Kevin Chilton said. For the first time, the shuttle returned to Earth with one fewer astronaut than it left with. Atlantis' commander Kevin

Chilton joked that "you usually get in trouble for that." Barring any emergencies, Lucid will break the record for an American in space before Atlantis returns to ferry her home in August. The shuttle's 10-day. 6.1 million km voyage was the third time that the ship has docked with the Russian Mir sta-

But the mission also experienced small problems, including one that mission managers feared could lead to an emergency landing when it appeared that the shuttle's payload bay doors would not open. The doors were working properly; the crew was getting a false indication that the doors were not opening.

NASA spokesman James Hartsfield said yesterday the number of problems the shuttle bad during the voyage was "about average" compared with the previous 75 sbuttle missions. Atlantis will not require extra time or effort for processing. Hartsfield said. The problems on this voyage may have been more high-profile than usual," Hartsfield said. "but that doesn't mean they are more difficult to

# protesters denounce Beijing:

**Hong Kong** 

HONG KONG (Reuter) -Hundreds of defiant Hong Kong protesters angrily denounced China yesterday for its heavyhanded efforts to reverse democratic reforms while thousands more scrambled to secure British travel documents.

Cheered and waved on by spectactors hanging from windows of trams, buses and buildings, the demonstration grew to over 800 people as marchers snaked through the crowded streets of Hong Kong chanting "Silence is not golden, it's fatal".

Nearby, thousands more queued anxiously at Immigration Headquarters in a last ditch scramble to secure British travel documents in a bleak demonstration of the lack of confidence in the future under Chinese rule next

China, which resumes sover-eignty of the British colony on July 1, 1997, has spread dismay and fear throughout Hong Kong by ordering the dismantling of its fully-elected legislature, Legco, when it resumes control.

It plans to replace Legco with an appointed chamber, dismissed scornfully by Hong Kong's democrats as nothing more than a rubber stamp, has stoked an angry backlasb in the normally docile British colony.

# Scandal and chaos: It's Italy

ROME (AP) - Politicians are comiparing their opponents to Goebbels and calling each other liar, betray-ing their allies and fighting off pros-One of the hottest topics of debate

has been a scandal-sewing countess whose tales put a judge in jail and pushed her lover out of politics. Yes, it's campaign season in Italy. It's all rather embarrassing for the current European Union But even worse, Italy's third election in four years is very likely to

produce yet another stalemate. Polls published yesterday, the last day they are allowed before the April 21 vote, show coalitions on the right and left just about neckand-neck.

The chances are high neither side will win a majority in Parliament. That would put Italian politics back where they were in mid-February, when the president called for a vote three years ahead of schedule because politicians could not agree on what reforms a new government should tackle.

Politicians suggest the center-left coalition dominated by the former Communists and the center-right alliance, led by media magnate Silvio Berlusconi, again would try to come up with a new election system that would guarantee stability and then go on to another election.

Thing were supposed to change with the political corruption scandal earthquake called "Tangentopoli" (Bribe City) that began in 1992. But reforms were only half realized The current system is a messy

Publishers

Collectors

hybrid of proportional and majority voting that produces a welter of parties banding into instable blocs. In one poll, published vesterday by the Turin daily La Sampa, the two blocs hovered at around 38 per-

cent. Six percent of the vote was given to the federalist Northern League party and the rest were imdecided. No margin of error was provided.

The key banieground is in north cru ltaly, where the once powerful Northern League has declined. Both alliances are battling for their

Confusing the scene are conflicting candidacies on both sides. Berluscomi has said that if his main ally, the right-wing National Alliance, overtakes his own Forza Italia party, National Alliance leader Gianfranco Fini could

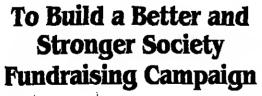
become premier. Fini rejected the suggestion, mindful of a voter backlash. His political past rests in the Italian Social Movement, the heirs of Mussolini's Fascist party.

On the left, former state industrial executive Romano Prodi, an economist, is the standard-bearer. He was closely linked to the now-defunct Christian Democrats and was chosen by the former Communists to appeal to voters who would be alienated by the party's Marxist

But a rival emerged last month: Italy's caretaker premier, Lamberto Dini, who said he was creating a party to join forces with the center-left coalition.

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(U)P

# Jesus, the sequel

esus stands under a pine tree, chatting with the leper, and holding a plastic cup in his hand. Half a meter away the video camera tracks and swivels, looking for that perfect angle.

The company that made The Revolutionary last March is back to make Revolutionary 2 - the first time ever that anyone has made a sequel of a film about Jesus.

The state of the s

12.0

"Audience response has been so overwhelming since the show opened in September that we're. constructing two more theaters. in Dallas and Los Angeles," says Revolutionary co-producer Ed

Lonatin.

Overwhelming because the film is being shot in high-definition video, Lopatin explains, so that the picture looks almost three-dimensional, "plus we have 40 speakers all around the theater which gives the audience the feeling of being there."

The company started shooting here March 17, two weeks after the latest series of deadly terror-

ist bombings.
A Canadian company canceled. Lopatin says, but we felt cializes in hihlical productions, it was no more dangerous for us than Los Angeles. We feel comfortable with our locations, and most importantly, we feel we shouldn't have terrorists making our decisions for us. If we let them dictate our life, they've won.

Still, it wasn't that easy. Sony, which has some \$2 million worth

of equipment on the set, was leery of letting it and the necessary technicians come.

Revolutionary's director of photography pulled out because of family pressure, "but luckily," Lopatin grins, "we found somebody else the might before we left. Now we've come, we're having a good time, and we'll be

"Because of the medium, the first film was about the major miracles with the story of Christ's life as a connecting thread," says Joyce Marcarelli, who wrote both the scripts. "This time we're focusing on the healing, like the leper, and the raising of Lazarus."

Meanwhile her husband, and Revolutionary director Robert Marcarelli, is lining up a shot which will "miraculously" transform the ravaged, rotting body of the leper (played by Israeli actor Ezra Dagan) into healthy flesh.

Marcarelli Productions and the local company Pelon, which spemade the first film and is making this one for Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) which, Lopatin claims, "is the largest satellite and cable network in the world, with over 300 stations."

Both films will be shown only in the US at the specially constructed theaters. But it was TBN head Paul Krauss who insisted that both films be shot "in the Holy Land," Lopatin continues.

We were told that Israel is difficult to work in, but the quality of the film crews we've had here has been the best we've ever worked with in the world.

Apart from the principals, John Kay Steel as Jesus and Chris Sanders as Pilate, all the rest of the film's 30 actors are Israeli, including Johnny Philips as Caiaphas, Dror Keren as Thomas and Yossi Graber as Annas.

"I was supposed to audition for John the Baptist but I asked to read Jesus because it's a bigger part and more money," answers the 30-year-old Steel candidly, his naturally blondish hair and beard dyed a darker brown so that he looks a ringer for any Renaissance portrait of Jesus.

He came to the part after a year of playing Judas in a one-man show called Guerrilla for which he won the 1994 Best Fringe Play at the Edinburgh Festival. He's also done cop shows on TV, and his most recent role is that of "a vicious maniac in another cop show called The Thief Takers.'

So, yes, "playing Christ is strictly a part. But there is the awe; the story is so awesome and the part is a huge responsibility because somehow you have to live up to people's faith and expectations that he was who he said he was.

"Other times it's more interest-



often lies ahead

such a crossroads.

At age 30, pianist Daniel

International

Gortler - winner of both the Vina del Mar International

Conspetition in Chile and the

Bremen Piano Competition, as

well as runner-up in the Munich

International Piano Competition

and third prize-winner in the

Geneva International Piano

Competition - has reached just

"I must admit that I was think-

ing recently [ahout] whether I

should enter another competi-tion," the Tel Aviv native said last

week. "But the only reason to do

so is to get more concert dates out

of it. I already have plenty of con-

cert dates so there is no real

necessity to compete any longer."

enjoyed several hreakthrough

engagements that have shifted his

career toward the international

scene, It all began 13 months ago

when Gortler was invited to

replace ailing pianist Murray

Perahia in a concert with the San

Gortler played the Schumann

piano concerto under the baton of

Russian superstar maestro Valery

"Gergiev is a very nice guy, yet

at the same time quite serious."

Gortler recalled. "He was very

busy rehearsing the Prokofiev symphony which was on the pro-

Francisco Symphony.

Over the past year Gortler has

John Kay Steel will appear almost three-dimensional in the title role of 'Revolutionary 2.'

ing to think of him as a normal guy with an incredible charismatic presence and power, a troublemaker who asked very astute questions and made people search their own souls for a clearer understanding of life."

The film's outdoor scenes have all been shot in the hills around Jerusalem where spring vegetation has softened the dour stones. The interiors are sets.

When she first came here in January last year to scout locations 'I wanted us to be outside more," Marcarelli recalls. "I didn't realize how the wars

through the centuries have destroyed the buildings. ! thought something of the Temple might be left, like some columns, or a courtyard.

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

He pleads no contest

NLIKE for an athlete, when a classical musigram and had very little time actucian's competitive days are ally for my concerto." over, the best part of his career

He added, "actually be was quite strange. It was difficult to find a common language with him. Of course, he was most professional, but really there was no time to establish anything else."

Another important project this past year found Gortler in Hamburg playing the piano while wearing a concentration-camp uniform. He was performing in a television film of Marc Neikrug's Through Roses, an opus for a narrator (Maximilian Schell) and a small ensemble about a Jewish violinist in Treblinka.

"It was an interesting experi-ence," Gorder said. "We would emerge in this film as the musicians of the concentration camp. But most of the time the camera focused on Pinchas Zukerman, who is sort of the protagonist of the piece."

The musicians recorded the piece for both the film and a CD. Gortler said that at this stage in his career, local orchestras and musicians are quite supportive.

"At the teenage and wunderkind level there's not that much solidarity for the local boys," he explained, "But once you are past that and you prove yourself, they start to appreciate your work and respect you for that."

BETWEEN PERFORMANCES. Gortler teaches at the Tel Aviv Rubin Music Academy.

"I teach because I like to. I started as an assistant to Arie Vardi, who was my teacher, and after one year I already had several students of my own," he said. "Now I teach my own students and also help Vardi when he is abroad."

Teaching, Gortler argued, "is very helpful for your own development. It helps me explain certain things in words. And once I make things clear for other people, eventually I make them clearer for myself."

Gortler's international career includes concerts withorchestras such as the Berlin Radio Symphony, the Bavarian Radio Symphony, the New World Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Houston Symphony, and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

He also performs frequently on his home turf. On Thursday night, Gortler is playing in the Mostly Bach Festival at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv. He is performing Bach's D minor piano concerto with the Camerata Women's Orchestra Ramat Hasharon under Menahem Nebenhaus.

On April 13, he begins a series of concerts with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra playing Brahms's second piano concerto under the baton of Gilbert Varga. The following month he performs Mozart's K.503 piano concerto with the Israel Sinfonierts Beersheha under Aharon Harlap.

# The arts blossom during Pessah

HELEN KAYE

The 12th annual English Drama Festival gets under way for two consecutive nights on Sunday at Tel Aviv's Yad Labanim with one-act plays performed by community-theater groups from around the country. They include Murray Schisgal's The Topists from the Sharon Players, Rahamin, Joseph et al. Netanya AACI contes Ned Simon's The Seduction. The curtain goes up at 2 p.m. Tickets: NIS 30; NIS 50 for both aights. Tel: (03) 648-5714 (10 a.m-1 p.m; 5-7

In Haifa, at the sixth annual Festival of Children's Theater, there'll be prizes for street theater as well as the regular competition for best play. Most of the shows are for children aged four to eight.

English-speakers can enjoy The Man Who Didn't Want to Spin, a mime play by new immigrant Fabrice Avnu, or The Emperor's New Clothes, a retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's famous tale interpreted by the Koldemama Dance Company. There are also two visiting street-theater groups: the No Strings puppet theater from Montreal and a German group who will stage their mime show Washday. Playing at 10 different venues in Haifa, it starts Saturday. at 7 p.m. Tickets from NIS 35.

Info: (04) 862-0670 Theater, music and stories with a Jewish flavor fill the two days of Ma'asiot Venigunim ("Fables and Tunes") on Sunday and Monday at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel

The seven shows, which will be performed only once each, include Sura Kama, a satire on the religious by the religious, Fun Shenstn un fun Bestn ("From the Nicest and the Best") - a collection of the best Yiddish jokes from the Israel Yiddish Theater performed by the likes of Shmnlik Segal and Yankele Bodo in Yiddish, and Ashbi'ech Dodi, an evening of songs written by the Yemenite sage Shlomo Shabazi, with Margalit Tzan'ani, Zion Golan and others.

LESTER!

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The zany Zitzland troupe will be among the featured acts at the sixth annual Haifa Festival of Children's Theater.

Tickets from NIS 40 to NIS 50. Info: (03) 510-5656.

On Sunday there's also Magic in Springtime, set in the lovely national park at Ein Hemed. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. there'll be workshops, master classes with Cagliostro the Magician (whose school is putting on the festival), an hour-long magic show, a competition for would-be wizards among the kids and more. Info: (03) 369-7403 or 576-6877.

Hoofers such as Barbara Duffy. Lisa Hopkins, Ira Bernstein and Van "the Man" Porter will be tapping up a storm and teaching together with local tap dancers Avi Miller and Ofer Ben at the sixth Jazz Tap Festival from Friday through Wednesday. There'll also

be demonstrations, workshops, master classes, a special course for kids, a jam session and, of course,

performances. These will be at Yad Labanim, Ra'anana, on Saturday, at the Gerard Behar Center in Jerusalem on Monday, both at 9 p.m., and at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv on Tuesday at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets NIS 65 at (03) 620-3039 or ticket offices. Visa holders can get a pair for NIS 85 plus points. Info: (03) 528-1682.

Thursday through Saturday, Pessah Bach will fill the Suzanne Dellal and Yaron Yerushalmi halls. Tickets from NIS 40 to NIS 70 at the box office and ticket agencies. Info: (03) 510-5656. There'll be more Bach, and

Chamber Orchestra conducted by Avner Itai, and Handel's Israel in Egypt performed on period instruments by the Baroque Orchestra of Berlin conducted by Christian Commichau. These concerts are on Sunday at

Handel, and Brahms, not to men-

tion Purcell, Monteverdi, Rossini

and more at the International

Festival of Musica Sacra at the

Salesian and Sisters of Mary

churches in Nazareth, Sunday

through Wednesday. Its center-

pieces are Bach's Easter Orasorio

performed hy the Kihhutz

4 and 7 p.m. respectively. All other concerts are between noon and 4. Tickets from NIS 65 to NIS 100. Info: (04) 838-4777. If you prefer sculpture, turn right

those from previous years. Entry

ly-quarried stone. A group of eight students from the Bezalel Arts Academy will be creating something on the lines of a modern Stonehenge from five enormous rocks. There will also be arts workshops and activities, and you can visit the sculpture garden where this year's works will join

at Nahariya and go up to Ma'alot-

Tarshiha in Western Galilee and

watch sculptors at work. This is the

fifth year of "Stone in Galilee," at

which 14 sculptors, local and for-

eign, will sculpt statues from local-

free. Info; (04) 997-9682/3/4. National parks such as the ani-

mal park at Kihhutz Tzova - t02) 347952 - also have special activities laid on. There'll be music and activities for all the family at Beit Govrin - t071 811020 or 874222 and "living pictures" from the lives of the Sages and more at Neot Kedumim - (08) 923-3840.

tKoko1

## **HSO** goes for steak over sizzle

HIS morning at 8, when the office opens, the first of about 8.000 subscribers to the Haifa Symphony Orchestra will renew his or her subscription for the 1996/97 season.

While several orchestras have already announced their plans for next season, the HSO is traditionally the first to open its subscription campaign, which offers the public a choice of a 12- or eight-concert sea-

Star power may be lacking in the program, admits music director Stanley Sperber. But. he says. "I'm sure Orit [Orbach, HSO principal clarinetist] will do great things. She's always a knockout. And on the whole our subscribers will find compensation in the repertoire. The following season we will probably have more stars again - I already know that Chee-Yun will return with cellist Allison Eldredge."

A close look at the HSO offerings for next season reveals a major symphony in each of the dozen programs, ranging from Mahler's First Symphony at the beginning of the season to Beethoven's Ninth at its conclusion.

"It is definitely my policy to have serious stuff played by the orchestra," says Sperber, "After all, we are a symphony orchestra and we should above all play the major symphonic repertoire.

Sperber admits that organizing each season is a constant battle between himself and general direc-tor Ben-Ami Einav. "Show me any music director and general director who don't fight and believe me they are not doing their job," he says.

Sperber tries to "push for contemporary music. But every time I succeed the orchestra gets a lot of letters from angry subscribers who say that when they come to the concert hall they don't want to be edu-cated." Michael Ajzenstadt

# Those lips! Those eyes! Kiss me Kate Winslett

ATE Winslet's ripe impenosity in Sense and Sensibility may not have won her the Academy Award for which she was nominated, but it has made the young actress a star.

As for the two traits of the title, she knows which one suits her. "I'm sensibility; I am, I am," Winslet said over lunch in north London, talking animatedly while she are a green salad and smoked Marlboro Lights. "My fundamental me, my real

me, is much more sensibility," she said, "Otherwise, actually, why am I acting, in all honesty? There's an element in all actors of getting to the root of certain emotions, digging around inside your soul and chucking things out.

Conversation tumbles out of the 20 year-old actress with an endearing fervor, unrestrained by caution or calculation, her openfaced enthusiasm - those lips! those eyes! - even more engaging face-to-face than on screen.

"I still don't understand why I have this thing about wanting to act so much. But it was always my drive, and if I say I'm going to do something, I do it. I am so incredibly stubborn," she says.

Others use words like "radiant" and "passionate" to describe a far. livelier screen presence than one sometimes gets from the reigning

English rose. Indeed, England hasn't seen anything like it since Julia Ormond forsook Hackney in east London for the vagaries of Hollywood, even if no single Ormand performance has yer to generate the buzz of Winslet's Marianne.

In her first film, Heavenly Creatures, Winslet drew audiences into the crotic fantasy nimed murderous reality of an English teenager in 1950s New Zealand. Based on a true story, the film was a critical success and got a 1995 Oscar nomination for best adapted screenplay.

MATT WOLF

The emotions in Sense and Sensibility - hased on Jane Austen's first novel - are less lethal, if no less volatile.

Playing the lovesick Marianne. middle sister of the financially squeezed Dashwood clan, Winslet fiercely embraces the dictates of the heart against the "prudence and honor and duty" extolled by older sister Elinor (Emma Thompson).

Winslet was talking at the end of a busy week in which she first flew to Los Angeles to test for a film about the Titanic to be directed hy James Cameron (The Terminator). One of the high points of the trip? Eating Caesar salad: "It's so good in California." She returned to London to continue filming her Opbelia in Kenneth Branagh's new screen version of Hamlet, Branagh is separated in

real life from Thompson, Winslet's screen sister.

The actress acknowledges she is at that point when anonymity starts to vanish. The restaurant staff offer proof of that, snapping into action to find a table when she walks in.

"It's not like it changes my behavior or anything like that," said Winslet, refusing either to be resentful of the recognition or to form some kind of attitude. "It's better to just ignore it and be who

Winslet's identity seems rooted in growing up in a strong, loving, secure environment. She is the second of four children born in Reading, west of London, to an actor father for whom, Winslet says, "things never really completely kicked off." Her mother is a qualified nanny and older sister

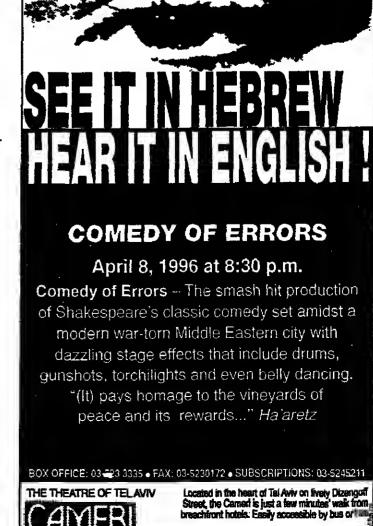
Anna, 23, is also an actress. Theater school in neighboring Maidenhead led to a Sugar Puffs commercial, a short-lived sitcom

called Get Back, and her role in Heavenly Creatures, which in turn landed Winslet a Hollywood agent - and Sense and Sensibility.

She had never read Jane Austen before hearing of Marianne. But with the part came a grip on the character expressed with the impassioned intelligence of someone twice her age.

"Marianne is the victim of her own sensibility, which is the thing I found most touching about her, said Winslet, who, since Sense and Sensibility, has completed another screen version of a Great British Novel - Thomas Hardy's Jude the Obscure, simplified for film purposes to Jude.

"She has been so untouched by the world that she knew no different but to be who she was, and she suffered for that," continued the actress, moved that "somebody could be as honest and be so generous with her heart and yet have it still broken."



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## Hizbullah's tactics

VEN those who never took seriously utopian visions of a new Middle East must have been startled by Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah's latest pronouncements. In what can only be described as a throwback to a medieval mindset, Nasrallah announced that the March 20 suicide bombing of an Israeli army patrol, which caused the death of an IDF officer, has opened a new era of suicide bombings in the Lebanon war. "It will be the crowning glory of the next phase in the struggle." he said.

Echoing the same idea, Damascus-based Islamic Jihad leader Ramadan Sallah, chosen to head the organization after the assassination of Fathi Shkaki in Malia, pledged thai Islamic Jihad will continue to launch suicide attacks against Israelis to create "a balance of terror." It was not that he was against Jews, said Sallah, who used to teach in a major Florida university. "Had they remained in New York, Poland or Russia, we would not have thought of taking up arms against them," he asserted, "But it is something else for them to take over Jerusalem, Haifa, Jaffa and Ashkelon.

Sallah boasts that "as Moslems we welcome death for the sake of God and do not bave the land attachment for life." But neither he nor other Islamic leaders intend to become suicide bomhers. Selflessly, they reserve this honor for young men brainwashed into believing that by killing Jews while killing themselves they are assured a place in paradise.

It may be instructive in this context to beed S. Yizhar, a leading writer and one of Israel's foremost doves. Interviewed by the Hebrew daily Ma arry, he said, "There is a difference between sending bombs and turning a human being into an explosive object, which is inhuman... There are places where people eat human flesh, with whom there can be no negotiations, because we have no common humanity. There are nations which fight with chemical and biological weapons...Not only are negotiations impossible with such people. They put their humanity in doubt. The Palestinians don't grasp that the suicide bombings are inhuman. I have waited for voices from the Palestinian side which will condemn the suicide war, condemn the very fact that children are sent to become live shells."

Yizhar also makes clear that for all the condemnation of specific terrorist attacks by Yasser Arafat, he has never condemned the phenomenon of suicide bombings as such. In fact, he has lionized such hombers as martyrs and heroes.

It can, of course, be argued that war is killing and risking lives, and that suicide missions are no more than instances in which the risk of death is raised to its ultimate degree. But failure to understand the difference between putting

lives at risk and brainwashing impressionable young men into blowing themselves up betrays (at least to Westerners) nothing less than moral bankruptcy.

Nor should the use of suicide bombers be viewed purely in terms of holy war. Nasrallah makes no secret of the pragmatic, cold-blooded purpose of the struggle. "The attacks of the Hizbullah military arm constitute a means by which we can pressure Israel. They are designed to erode its economy, political position and morale. Our struggle will serve as a bargaining chip in the hands of Lebanon and Syria, which will enable them to negotiate for the return of their rights. The American administration wants the Arabs to negotiate from a position of weakness, which will make their surrender to Israel possible. We aim to prevent that."

This is perhaps the first open confirmation that the Hizbullah, for all its religious and financial ties with Iran, is a Syrian proxy. Its role is to shoot while Damascus talks, and the shooting is expected to create internal pressure in Israel for concessions which will purportedly end the bloodshed. The repeated declarations hy Israeli leaders that there is no military solution to the Lebanon bloodletting, and that only a political settlement will bring relief, can only encourage Syria to continue using these tactics.

The most recent incident is indicative of Israel's no-win position. Israeli troops fired not at a village but in the direction of armed guerrillas. Whether the two who were killed are indeed civilians hit hy accident is not yet clear, but Prime Minister Shirnon Peres was quick to convey his apologies to Syria through the US in the hope that no retaliation will ensue.

The Hizbullah did retaliate nevertheless. Not unreasonably, it can now claim it is the only defender of Lehanese civilians and boast of seriously harming Israel's tourist industry and forcing Galilee residents to live in shelters. The acquisition of such prestige and power, particularly in the face of Israeli inaction, will make recruitment of fighters and suicide bombers easier than ever, and hasten the defection of South Lebanese Army troops. On the other hand, Israeli military retaliation - proclaimed as a futile exercise by its own leaders - will inevitably cause Israeli casualties, which the government is reluctant to endure during an election campaign.

What the government has not done is declare that the continuation of negotiations with Syria depends on a cease-fire on the Lehanon front, and that if no such cessation is effected, it will be Syrian targets in Lehanon rather than its Hizbullah proxies that will have to bear the consequences. If Syria's dictator Hafez Assad is truly interested in peace, he should readily agree to such elementary prerequisites.



# Business as usual

n Saturday night, Katyusha rockets fell in the Galilee Panhandle and Western Galilee. Today, Prime Minister and Defense Minister Shimon Peres is due to leave for a tour of Oman and Qatar to promote Israeli business interests there. The security situation in the North did not move Peres, in his capacity as defense minister, to change his plans and remain in the country.

By departing just before the Passover holiday, as citizens of the North were being threatened by Hizbullah terror and their Pessah preparations disrupted, the premier was sending a clear message to the nation: the problems of the citizens of Galilee are not your problems. They are the concern only of those in the shelters.

If the prime minister can go about business as usual in spite of the Katyushas in Galilee, so can everyone else. After all, compared to the premier, what can the man in the street in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv do to help the residents of Kiryat Shmona or Nahariya?

We are being taught to be apathetic and are told that it is a sign, not of callousness, but of strength. We are asked to believe that we frustrate the terrorists when we show indifference to the murder of

This indifference, encouraged by the behavior of an Israeli government that does not send representatives to the funerals of terror victims, that deliberately plays down the significance of the escalating number of terror deaths, is destroying something very basic and very good in the fabric of Israeli society the sense of extended family that had until recently united us all.

Not long ago, immigrants from the United States would contrast the warmth felt in Israel, where on huses a crying baby would be JONATHAN BLASS

offered, unsolicited, bananas by passengers who had never met either the baby or mother before, to the coldness felt in large American cities where people would try to avoid eye contact on the streets. The Genovese murder in New York, where a woman was murdered as her neighbors watched but did not call the police as they "did-n't want to get involved" was

Katyushas in Kirvat Shmona? Who, except for those who live there, really cares?

something that could never happen in Israel, where involvement was a way of life.

NO LONGER. Apathy and amnesia have triumphed, with more than a little help from interested parties. Peres's political fate, and that of the government, is dependent on Israelis losing that sense of involvement, on allowing themselves to forget almost instantaneously the murder of fellow Jews by terrorists sheltered by Peres's PLO "partners" lo the Oslo

Political pundits predict that Hamas terror will influence the elections only if, God forbid, there are terrorist attacks just before election day. Even then, if terror strikes at Israel's periphery - in the North or in Judea, Samaria or Gaza - it will be accepted as part of a routine to which we have already resigned ourselves in spite of our

overwhelming military superiority. Without noticing it, money - Peres's trip to the Gulf states to drum up business for Israeli corporations - has become more important than the defence minister's responsibility to stay at home and come up with steps to deter attacks on Kiryat Shmona

Katyushas in Kiryat Shmona? Who, except for those who live there, really cares? A business deal with the emir is a different story altogether.

Israeli society's loss of compassion is a process that can and should be reversed. Not just for the sake of the residents of Kiryat Shmona, but to preserve the nature of the Jewish state. After reporting on the Katyushas and Peres's jaunt to the Gulf, the radio announced the results of Saturday's football matches as if nothing at all had happened, as if despite the Katyushas, they were still impor-

But in the shadow of the rockets they are not. If, after terror attacks, football and basketball games: throughout the country were to be canceled, and theaters and moviehouses closed in solidarity, if a week of national mourning were declared when an attack should unfortunately prove fatal, one wonders how long any government would be allowed to pursue a policy of restraint that enables Israeli citizens to be murdered with

Today, as the tempo of terror accelerates, as our natural warmth and involvement are eroded and replaced by the callousness of despair, it is a suggestion worthy of consideration.

The writer, rabbi of Neveh Tzıf in Samaria, heads Ratzon Yehuda, a rabbinical training program for graduates of Yeshivot Hesden

provides for the mutual exchange.

of vital intelligence between Israel

and the US. In "Appeasement of

# Spot the difference

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

oth the Labor Party and the Doth me Law 1 any and Likud-Tsomet-Gesher alignment lists for the 14th Knesset have their imperfections and distortions. Yet, these two lists - each of which includes in its first 45 places 17 candidates who were not members of the 13th Knesset - are an excellent reflection of Israeli reality and the different images each party wants to convey to the public. The Israeli reality is responsible

for the similarities in the two lists. First, each has an impressive First, each has an impressive array of generals in their "opening 10." Labor has one former chief of staff (Ehud Barak), one majorgeneral (Ori Orr) and two brigadier-generals (Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Ephraim Sneh). The Likud has one former chief of staff (Rafael Eitan) and two major-generals (Ariel Sharon and Yitzhak Mordechai). Both also have several candidates who are members of political families. In Labor, Uzi Baram's father was Moshe Baram - a former MK and minister (4th-8th Knessets). Ephraim Sneh's father was MK Moshe Such (1st-7th Knesset). and Yael Dayan is the daughter of former MK and minister Moshe Dayan (4th-10th Knessets), and the granddaughter of former MK Shmuel Dayan (1st-3rd Knessets).

This is even more extensive in the Likud-led list. Ze'ev Binyamin Begin is the son of Menachem Begin (1st-10th Knessets), Ehud and Yossi Olmert are the sons of former MK Mordechai Olmert (3rd-4th Knessets), Dan Meridor is the son of former MK Eliahu Meridor (4th-6th Knessets) and Tzahi Hanegbi is the son of Geula Cohen (8th-12th Knessets). In addition to the two Olmert brothers, the Likud-Tsomet-Gesher list also includes the two Levy brothers, David and Maxim.

In all these cases, except that of Sneh, father (or mother) and son (or daughter) belonged to the same political camp. Another similarity is that apparently neither party is capable of properly representing the new immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Both Labor and the Likud placed a Russian new immigrant in the 45th slot, which is not guaranteed to provide a Knesset seat. Such a placement does not reflect the fact that there are over half a million recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union (more if you add the immigrants from the 1970s). There will probably be at least half a dozen MKs of Russian origin in the 14th Knesset, but most of them will represent Natan Sharansky's new party Yisrael Ba'aliya.

BUT HERE the similarities end. While the Labor list is extremely diversified - and intentionally so - the Likud list is much more

### Both the Labor and Likud lists are an excellent reflection of Israeli reality

homogeneous. The Likud list includes in addition to two sets of siblings, seven Rafael Eitans and seven David Levys. At least a fifth of the candidates on the list are Jerusalemites, including Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

While the Likud doesn't have a single non-Jew in its first 45 slots, Labor has four: two Moslem Arabs, one Christian Arab (Nadia Hilu - a woman) and a Druse. Labor also has an Ethiopian and six women on its list compared with the Likud alignment's three women candidates. In addition, Labor's representation is distributed more evenly in geographical and sectorial terms.

Another difference is that while the Likud has "only" four PhDs on its list (Begin, Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Yehuda Lankri and Yossi Olment), Labor has four professors (Shevah Weiss, David Liba'i. Shlomo Ben-Ami and Shimon Shetreet) and another two PhDs (Yossi Beilin and Ra'anan Cohen).

However, the most significant difference between the two lists is that while that of Labor seems more dovish than the one it presented to the 13th Knesset (two hawks left to form the Third Way and several others were pushed to lower places on the list), that of the Likud alignment seems more hawkish (partially because the number of representatives of the former Liberal Party has diminished). But this fact is probably not as significant as might appear at first sight.

There is no doubt that should there be no progress in the peace process with Syria and Lebanon, and no reduction in Moslem fundamentalist terror, the Labor Party will revert to more hawkish positions. On the other hand, should the peace process advance smoothly and terror diminish, the Likud will be forced to adopt more pragmatic, dovish positions. The writer is a political scientist

# A Pessah issue

ne aspect of the Pessah story that has accompanied the Jews' Diaspora experience has been the issue of dual loyalty. The Exodus story begins with a new Pharaoh saying to his people: "Behold the people of the children of Israel ... let us deal wisely with them; lest ... it come to pass, that, when any war should chance, they also join our enemies, and fight against us." (Exodus I:8-10). The Hebrews of Egypt were contributive and loyal; Pharaoh's accusation was entirely false. Hs decision to treat them as a potential fifth column created the enmity around which the Pessah story developed.

Just as in the case of the Egypu'an prototype, Diaspora Jews have an excellent record of loyalty to their adopted lands. Yet they have been extremely sensitive to the accusation of dual loyalty and have had their share of enemies who would "deal wisely

with them."
The Purim holiday recalls just such an instance.

More recently, Captain Alfred Dreyfus's false incrimination as a spy against his native France sent ock waves thronghout a nationally self-conscious French Jewry just over 100 years ago. It took years to prove his innocence and establish Dreyfus as the loyal patriot he was. Wouldn't it be nice if Jonathan

Pollard could similarly be magically transformed from the treasonous criminal he is perceived to be by the American public and added to the long and distinguished list of Jewish American heroes? His passing classified information to Israel is seen as a terrible embarrassment. Many American Jews, American Jewish organizations and Israel herself would prefer it if **BRUCE BRILL** 

long as Jonathan Pollard is alive... and imprisoned. In a vain attempt to lower the issue's profile, Pollard and the Israelis fully cooperated with the US prosecutors in 1985. Israel immediately turned Pollard over to the US authorities. His advocates apologetically

When will those Jewish organizations that adopted a "no position" position on Pollard, in the hope of not making an "issue" of the issue realize that as long as Pollard remains in jail, those who wish to sour US-israel relations have a convenient tool?

YET THERE is a larger question: What compelled Pollard to pass classified information to a foreign albeit friendly - country?
The 1983 US-Israel Binational Intelligence Exchange Agreement Iraq made me a Spy," (Wall Street Journal, Feb. 15, 1991), Pollard accuses his supervisors of suppressing information vital to Israel. This brought him to assume the responsibility himself. "I'd rather be in jail for life than 'sitting shive' (mourning) for hundreds of thousands of Israelis," Pollard wrote. Pollard behaved correctly - and

as a good American - in light of the Nuremberg Judgments, requiring him to act on behalf of potential innocent victims. Pollard's act, then, was not an act of treason against America, it rather foiled the un-American treachery of his superiors. An offensive for Pollard's release, stressing this line, might prove to be the most effective way to help Pollard, assuage American Jews' dual loyalty dilemma ... and celebrate

The writer is a Middle East security analyst.

## POSTSCRIPTS. WRITER ELMORE Leonard,

on his secret to good writing: "I try to leave out the parts that people skip."

A DRUNKEN New Zealander named Grant Shittit thought he found a comfortable place to sleep off his condition. Unfortunately, what he thought was a bedof moss was, in fact, a trench of

By the time he awoke he had set fast. He was noticed only three days later by a passerby.

### FAILED POLICIES starvation resulting from the Israeli

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gaza?

Sii. - Douglas J. Feith ("No alteinative to peace." March 31) simplistically argues that "before peace s possible. Palestinian Arabs must develop both peaceable intentions and political institutions that have credibility and authority."

How does Mr. Feith suggest that these credible institutions develop under what he seems to imply are the best solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, namely the status quo between 1967 and 1993? The very reason official Palestinian institutions could not develop in the occupied territories was due to the Israeli occupation.

What comes first - the process of state-building superseding peace between the Israelis and Palestinians, or the development of peace and along with it the evolutionary process of political institutionalization?

And how are the Palestinians expected to develop "peaceable intendons" in light of the continued Israeli occupation of their land and collective punishment meted out to them by the Israeli army, such as the deniolition of homes and the mass

### USEFULNESS OUTLIVED

Sir. - Whatever the merits of the Sharm e-Sheikh meeting may have been in practical terms, one of its most important aspects was the impressive array of Arab leaders who had one common objective: To fight the terror threat aimed at their own existence.

For the first time since the Israel-Arab conflict erupted, they have given a clear demonstration that we are fighting on the same side, that they can still qualify as good Moslems when cooperating with us to defeat Moslem extremists.

Even more telling is the implied warning to Arafai: Stop playing games with our enemies!

Clearly, for the vast majority of

Arabs, the Palestinians have outlived their usefulness as the symbol of Arab unity. GEORGE J. ELY

Herzliya.

### Middle East specialist on the White House National Security Council. ALIA TOUKAN

blockade of the West Bank and

Feith that Israeli policies towards

the Palestiniaos were a failure to

such an extent that they led to the

intifada, which erupted in 1987 and only subsided in 1993. Therefore,

actually considering the status quo

between 1967 and 1993 as an "op-

be naive, to say the least, to presume

that relations with Arab countries

could be anything but lukewarm if

the status quo in the occupied terri-

tories continues. The peace process

between Israel and the Arab states in

general, including Jordan, is highly

contingent on the course of the Pal-

Mr. Feith served in such significant

and sensitive posts as deputy assis-

tant secretary of defense and as a

What I find most shocking is that

Mr. Feith as well as others would

tion" is not very wise.

estinian-Israeli track.

Perhaps it hasn't occurred to Mr.

ETHIOPIAN HERITAGE CENTER Sir, - Many thanks to Batsheva Tsur for her favorable and informative review of the opening of the Institute for the Culture of Ethiopian Jewry on March . 3. May we point out that the members of the Ethiopi-

an Jewish community have decided nnanimously that their first preference is to have the permanent building built in Jerusalem. Only if that is not possible will it be established in

With the help of the Jerusalem Municipality and the Israel Lands Administration, we seem to be moving closer to our goal of building a large building that will house the museum and all our other activities. DR. ELY BEN-GAL.

Director General, Behalachin - The Institute for the Culture of Ethiopian Jewry

### CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

Sir, - It was a pleasure to read

D.J. Feith's article in the March 25 issue. At last, a reasoned, coocrete attack on the Peres government's misleading "peace" slogans. The writer was not merely content to criticize the government on this score, but also pointed out that the 'peace' slogan was not just misleading but harmful for Israel's

Why can't you occasionally find native Israeli critics who have something constructive to say on the subject? The great majority of your government-bashing articles or letters to the editor contain nothing but appeals to patriotism. Zionism. love for Judaism," and similar cliches. I am all for these virtues, but they are no substitute for intelligent discussion of the issues.

PROF. K. WEISER

TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE

Sir, - The fact that Nadia Matar was cleared of any wrongdoing was definitely good news. But was jus-uce served? It seems to me that the entire proceedings were a mockery of justice.

Justice will be served when an honest citizen exercising his or her rights can depend on the law enforcement system for protection, fairness and above all else honesty. Can we depend on this system when seven policemen can perjure them-selves in open court? Can we depend on the system when there is enough evidence for the head of Jerusalem's riot squad to be indicted himself for violence toward peaceful demonstrators?

What message does the court give to these men entrusted with upholding the law for apparently feeling that they are above the law? As the case was dropped, there will be no court censure when they should be indicied for perjury.

AVI AUERBACH Efrat.

It will remain alive, however, so

the whole troublesome affair would just disappear.

Diaspora Jews are extremely sensitive to the dual loyalty accusation

admitted his criminality and begged for a reduced sentence. All this was done to win him favorable consideration.

It didn't work. Pollard received the maximum penalty and the dual loyalty question was not kept at bay. Over the past decade, hardly a week has gone by without some aspect of the Pollard affair appearing in the media. The "kowtow and cooperate" approach has only served to keep it alive.

cement.

# Sexual pioneer with a dark side

F the start of this century's rev-olution in sexual annudes could be pinned on one person, it would be Marie Stopes, founder of the British Empire's first birth-control clinic.

Stopes was a sexual pioneer in the 1920s in a world still bound by the rigid mores of the Victorian

The opening of the clinic just over 75 years ago was radical enough, hut it paled beside the influence of Stopes's book Married Love, published in 1918, which preached the unheard-of notion that women should enjoy sex.

But the humanitarian who vowed to bring sexual fulfillment to the masses had a dark side. Stopes was also an advocate of eugenics - the selective breeding of humans - and treated her own husband with astonishing emotional brutality.

Stopes has been credited with transforming the sex lives of millions. To an ignorant male-domi-nated world, where women were expected to merely endure sex. Stopes introduced foreplay and declared that a mutually satisfying sex life was the key to the perfect

Married Love was a huge suc-cess. It was translated into 14 languages and sold over a million copies. In 1935, a group of American academics ranked it one of the most influential works of the previous 50 years, ahead of

Einstein's Theory of Relativity.
"We could arguably lay much of the hlame for our over-optimistic expectations of marriage squarely on her shoulders," wrote a reviewer of a recent hiography of

What was most astonishing about Murried Love was that, at 37. Stopes was a virgin when she wrote

In a rare legal case. Stopes had had her first marriage annulled in 1916 because it had proved sexually unfulfilling and was never con-

This was clearly a woman who was not going to put up with an unsatisfactory sex life, but it was also an early hint of the sheer, overriding force of her personality.

Stopes was married for a second time in 1918 to Humphrey Verdon-Roe, an aeronautical pioneer whose wealth freed her to devote her time to writing and carrying on her mis-

But white preaching marital bliss, Stopes herself was a cruel and domineering wife.

She forced Roe to write, at her dictation, a letter freeing her from sexual fidelity because he was unable to satisfy her.

Eventually Roe was banished to the attic of the 18th-century mansion they shared and had to earn permission to visit family rooms by doing household chores.

The couple's son born when Stopes was 44, was equally dominated, although adored, by his mother, who was growing odder as sbe aged.

Harry Stopes-Roe was forced to wear either kilts or woolen trousers as a child because his mother was convinced anything else would damage his genitals.

When Harry finally rebelled and chose a bride for himself, his mother objected furiously that his fiancée wore glasses and that the purity of her descendants could be damaged by this tiny imperfec-

She wrote her son out of her will and when she died in 1958, the mansion was left to the Royal Society of Literature and Harry received the 13-volume Greater

Oxford Dictionary. Stopes's opposition to the marriage may have been partly rooted in possessiveness, but it was also a potent display of her eugenic conrictions.

She believed the human race was in decline and that only selective breeding among perfect individuals - like herself - could save it. She urged the sterilization of



Maria Stopes, founder of the British Empire's first birthcontrol clinic, was also an advocate of eugenics.

mothers with physical or mental disabilities and described her birthcontrol ctinic as "a sure light in our

When a deaf-mute man wrote to her for advice on birth control, she rebuked him for even contemplating sex and then wrote to a charity declaring that people with such disabilities should not be allowed to

Recent critics have said she was also a supporter of Hitler, because she sent him a volume of her poems, Love Soilgs for Young

Her son has dismissed the idea. "It was a perversion to suggest she admired Hitler. She was anti-Nazi. Sending the poems was an example of her 'megalomania,' said Stones-Roe.

By the beginning of World War II, Stopes had given up proselytiz-ing and turned her attention to writing poetry and literature.

She was disgusted that she was remembered solely as a birth-control pioneer.

She was sick to death of us all. She had taught the man in the street to heave overboard the prurience and taboos of centuries so that he could soar up to the ultimate fulfdlment of bliss - and what had he done? The oaf had used her gift like an extra gadget in the lavatory,"

# From one Jew to 2,000

EFORE World War II, the University of Southern California had a numerus clausus, or quota, system for its professional schools, striking in its simplicity.

One Jewish student was admitted to the medical school, one to the dental school and one to the law school.

Those statistics have changed, as Dr. Steven B. Sample, president of the private institution, told Jewish community leaders he hosted at a recent luncheon. Currently, the Jewish presence on campus encompasses 2,000 to 2,500 students, or 8-10 percent of the total enrollment, and one-third of all deans and profes-

Perhaps not coincidentally, the academic standing of USC - once known mainly for its athletic prowess - has risen sharply in the last few decades.

The Jewish contributions have been immense," said Sample at a campus luncheon, "Our ties to the Jewish community are as strong as those of any other American univer-Founded by the Methodist Church in 1880 and long considered a WASP bastion inhospitable to minorities, the USC turnaround has been startling. As recently as the 1970s, USC elicited bowls of protest from the Jewisb community when it announced the establishment of a Middle East Studies Center, funded entirely by Arab nil money.

The center, delicately described by Sample as "a misstep," was stillborn and the money returned to its donors.

The transformation of USC can be credited to a number of factors.

USC, once a bastion of the WASP establishment, has come a long way from the days of its antisemitic quotas, **Tom Tugend** reports from Los Angeles

One is the change in American society from the pre-World War II era, when job listings in the Los Angeles Times routinely carried the proviso, "Only whites and Christians need apply." Another is the advent of a more enlightened leadership at USC, which was also mindful that its Jewish alumni tended to be unusually successful and generous to their

Not least is the work of Joseph Roos, who was hired 15 years ago as a community relations consultant by the university.

The 87-year-old Roos, a legendary pioneer in battling antisemitism and hate groups, was bonored at the luncheon for his "tireless dedication in fighting injustice and as a model for service to the community."

AMONG USC's current programs and rela-

tionships, noted Sample, are a Jewish studies curriculum attracting 500 undergraduates, including many non-Jews; active academic exchanges and joint studies with the neighboring Hebrew Union College, a relationship Sample hopes to extend to HUC's new Skirball Cultural Center, and ties to the Hehrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv

University. Sample is working toward the establishment of a Jewish studies center and fundraising is under way for an endowed chair in Jewish

Cinema-school senior Joey Nusshaum cited his own career at USC as a good example of how things look from the students' perspec-

It started when, as a lonely freshman. Nussbaum was invited by campus Hillel direcfor Rabbi Susan Laemmle to an Erev Shabhat celebration, and he was on his way.

Now president of the USC Jewish Student Union, Nusshaum worked with Hillel, fellow students and faculty to found or strengthen an annual Jewish awareness week, a Jewish filmmakers forum, the residential Bayit and SChalom housing, both with kosher kitchens, Rosh Hodesh celebrations for women, and joint dialogue groups with Arah and black stu-

Also available are a study program in Israel, a joint USC-HUC degree in religion, Hillel activities and lectures and symposia on Jewisb

Whatever I needed Jewishly," the graduating Nussbaum said, "it was there."

HE US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) bas acknowledged the harmful effects of dioxin, a chemical released mainly hy paper

mills and incinerators. According to a preliminary report, "low doses of dioxin can cause cancer and infertility, and even interfere with fetal development, even at the background levels that most people have in their

The final results of the fouryear study will he published later

It is the hleaching of paper products that produces so much dioxin, contaminating air and water

D'VORA BEN SHAUL sources and the subsequent incineration of paper products that pol-

lutes the air, say the experts. For this reason, many people are pressing for more unbleached paper products in everything from sanitary supplies and disposable diapers to coffee filters.

Dioxin bas been suspect for a number of years. It now appears that in order to cause harm the dioxin must bind with a number of receptors called Ah receptors on cells. Just why this bonding happens in some people and not in

others is not understood, hut some

scientists say that this may mean that there is no level of dioxin low enough to protect some people from its effects.

In the meantime, the industries involved have mounted a massive campaign to try and show that dioxin is harmless and that the entire issue is a by-product of what they term "ecosteria" or, on other words, ecological hysteria.

They have found new friends in the Congress. After the last US congressional elections, a Republican-controlled Congress known for strong anti-environ-

mental stands — canceled the appearance of a researcher sympathetic to environmentalists.

Instead, the Congress invited Michael Gough, a conservative think-tank member from the Cato Institute, and Kay Jones of Zephyr Consulting in Seattle. Both are known for their criticism of the EPA report and their support of industry. Both have worked extensively for industries that produce

The EPA plans to release its full report later this year. According to Linda Birnbaum, one of its authors, there will be more detail about research, but the conclusions will remain the same.

## **Inadmissible evidence only counts** when it makes a difference

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Criminal Appeals. before justices Dov Levin, Gavriel Bach. Eliyahu Maza Mishael Cheshin, and Yitzhak Zamir, in the matter of the State of Israel, appellant, versus Yoram Abutbul, respondent (F.H.[C] 188/94).

BUTBUL was convicted in the Tel Aviv District Court of rape and other offenses. He appealed to the Supreme Court on the grounds that the inadmissible evidence of a polygraph test undergone by the complainant had been wrongly admined at his trial and could have influenced the result. The court, by majority decision, allowed the appeal (The Jerusalem Post, January 10, 1994) and the court president acceded to the state's request to order a

rehearing.
Justice Zamir analyzed section 56 of the Evidence Ordinance (New Version) of 1971. It provides that no judgment in a criminal trial shall be based on inadmissible evidence admitted by error or inadverience; nevertheless, the judgment shall not be invalidated by an appeal court "unless, in the opinion of the court, the accused would not have been convicted if such evidence had not been given, or there was no other sufficient evidence to support conviction."

Justice Zamir was satisfied that the trial court did not take the inadmissible evidence into account and that there was ample other evidence to support the conviction. He proposed, therefore, that the appeal court's first judgment be set aside, that Abutbul's conviction be confirmed, and that the Supreme Court pass sentence afresh after hearing counsels' sub-

Justice Cheshin adhered to his original opinion that Abutbul's appeal be dismissed. He agreed with the presumption that the trial judge disregarded inadmissible evidence. He differed from Justice Zamir as to remitting the case to the lower court being the most desirable course.

**ASHER FELIX LANDAU** 

JUSTICE BACH also adhered to his previous opinion. He agreed with Justice Zamir that any reasonable doubt as to the judge's having been influenced by the inadmissible evidence worked in the defendant's favor. In the present case, however, there was no place for a reasonable doubt.

His finding on this aspect was not based only on the judge having mentioned the polygraph test in his judgment. He referred to it twice, in different passages, without commenting that it was inadmissible and that he had disregarded it. Moreover, the judge stated the complainant had apparently undergone the test successfully, the defendant had tried to minimize its importance, and his counsel had vigorously opposed it. Referring to all these features in his judgment surely raised at least a reasonable doubt as to whether he did not rely on this evidence, particularly in view of the sharp conflict of evidence between the complainant and the defendant.

It was important, in his opinion. to direct judges that if they referred to inadmissible evidence, they should clarify that they disregarded it in reaching their conclusions.

JUSTICE LEVIN concurred with Justice Bach. The trial court, he said, had no need to refer to the polygraph evidence in its judgment. That it did so raised at least a doubt whether its purpose was not to strengthen and explain why it preferred the complainant's version to the defendant's.

Moreover, the whole occurrence was strange and the evidence of both the complainant and the defendant was full of contradictions and surprising allegations. The objective evidence too was insufficient to dispel doubts as to the defendant's guilt.

JUSTICE MAZZA accepted Justice Zamir's legal analysis of

the principles involved. He also accepted the presumption that the trial court was not influenced by the inadmissible evidence, noting that the strength of that presumption depends on the circumstances of each particular case. He also commented there was no conflict between the members of the court as to the principles involved. He also held that where there

was no other sufficient evidence to support conviction, and there was at least a reasonable doubt as to whether the trial court had been influenced by the inadmissible evidence, the defendant was entitled to be acquitted. On the other hand, less than a reasonable doubt on that point would not justify

invalidating the judgment. He agreed with Justice Bach that judges should be directed to make it clear that if they referred to inadmissible evidence, they did not rely on it in any way.

Despite the judge's mendoning the complainant's polygraph test, Justice Mazza continued, he was satisfied the judge had nm relied upon it in convicting Abuthul.A close reading of the admissible evidence and the judgment showed clearly that the judge believed the complainant and disbelieved the defendant.

Although the complainant's evidence contained some surprising passages, it was clearly, on the face of it far more convincing than the defendant's evasive testimony. In his opinion, therefore. there was no justification for the appeal court's invalidating the trial court's judgment.

IN THE result and by majority decision, the District Court's judgment was restored as decided by Justice Zamir.

Yiska Leibowitz, former senior assistant state attorney, appeared for the state, and Prof. Kenneth Mann and Shimon Shover appeared for Abutbul. The judgment was given on February 28, 1996.

This is the second of two parts.

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# Minimum Wage, Maximum Debate

**WEEKLY REVIEW** 

By STEVEN GREENHOUSE

LTHOUGH many Republicans are loath to admit it, there is an undeniable logic to Democratic proposals to raise the \$4.25-an-hour minimum

That logic goes like this: if a plant is thirsty, water it; if a tire is losing air, fill it; if the pay of low-wage workers keeps them mired in poverty, then simply raise it — if

necessary, by legislation.

For President Clinton and the many Democrats pushing for a higher minimum wage, such a step would be one way to narrow the growing income gap between Americans on the bottom rungs and those on the top. The Democratic plan to raise the wage to \$5.15 over two years would also be a tidy way to stop the incomes of low-wage workers from falling further behind inflation.

In an election year, there's a lot of political logic at work, too. With three-fourths of Americans supporting an increase in the minimum wage, and with the wage gap growing as a public issue, the Democrats see a higher minimum wage as a political slam-dunk.

In large measure that explains why Democrats pushed the issue onto center stage in Congress last week and why Mr. Clinton made it the subject of his weekly radio address yesterday. Depicting their party as the friend of Joe and Jane Lunchpail, the Democrats said that raising the minimum

Inflation's Squeeze

On the Lowest Paid

Congress established the first minimum

wage of 25 cents an hour, during the

minimum wage, as measured in 1996

dollars, has tallen 31 percent since 1979

As buying power has fallen, so has the

for the minimum or less.

percentage of hourly employees working

75

70

'80

'85

Federal minimum wage

in 1996 dollars

Decression as part of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. The value of the to \$5.15 would increase the wages of approximately 4 million workers now earning \$4.25 an hour, and of another 8 million earning between \$4.26 and \$5.14 an hour.

As the Administration's chief cheerleader on the issue, Robert B. Reich, the Secretary of Labor, has repeatedly pointed out that the \$8,500 that a full-time minimum-wage worker earns each year is so far below the poverty line that the worker would most likely need welfare and food stamps to support a family. With the poverty line set at \$15,600 for a family of four, one full-time worker would need to make \$7.80 an hour to climb above that line. Mr. Reich also notes that because of the corrosive effects of inflation, the minimum wage — which was last increased five years ago tomorrow — is 31 percent below where it was in 1979 and will soon be at its lowest point in 40 years.

### **Lifting All Boats**

"Some people want us to believe that the typical minimum-wage worker is a teenager flipping hamburgers," Mr. Reich said. "That's simply not the case. Most minimum-wage workers are over 20 years old, and 40 percent of them are the sole breadwinners in their family."

Democrats look to a higher minimum wage as a way for a rising tide of economic growth to lift all boats, not just the yachts. For many Republicans, the Democratic drive to lift the minimum wage is equal parts junk economics and cheap polltics.

Percent of hourly

wage earners 14

making the

nınimu**m w**age 12

or less.



\$4.50 AN HOUR A stock worker at a drug store on West 42d Street in Manhattan.

Eager to show that they too are concerned about the poor, Republicans argue that lifting the minimum wage will result in layoffs for tens of thousands of low-wage workers because many of those jobs would be eliminated or shifted overseas.

fn Senate debate last week, Senator Bob Dole, the all-but-annointed Republican candidate for President, said: "There are going to be a lot of young people who lose their jobs. Many are black teen-agers, and many are young people whose parents live below the poverty line."

Senator Don Nickles, Republican of Oklahoma, said a higher minimum wage would cause many employers to hire fewer unskilled workers once they became more expensive to employ. "Instead of helping people get on the economic ladder, the Democrats are pulling the economic ladder up and not enabling people to get on."

Senator Dole may have have won last week's legislative battle by maneuveriog to prevent the Senate from vuting on a higher minimum wage, but the Democrats say President Clinton is winning the public relations war by showing his concern for the beleaguered American worker.

### **Just Politics**

Geoffrey Garin, a Democratic pollster, said, "People believe that somebody who works a 40-hour week ought to make a wage they can live on, and the fact that Republicans oppose that notion is incredibly damning of them to voters."

Supporters of a higher minimum received some unexpected new moral ammunition last week when a study found that chief executives' pay, with stock options included, soared 31 percent last year, the highest jump in a decade, putting their median pay

Republicans insist that Mr. Clintoo's push for a higher minimum wage is not quite the high-minded enterprise the Democrats suggest. "They know it has no chance of passing," Senator Nickles sald. "They're just trying to score political points."

Nonetheless, Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato of New York and a handful of other Republican Senators, perhaps sensing which way the political winds are blowing, last week announced their support for a higher minimum wage.

Some minimum-wage workers say it is

patronizing for Republicans to assert that a higher minimum wage would walkop the poor. Lawrence Ware, a \$4.25-an-hour temporary employee with the New York City Human Resources Administration, took is sue with the Republicans, saying: "It makes me feel like they prefer the cliché, 'The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.' They don't really care much about poor people."

Like many low-wage workers. Mr. Ware

Like many low-wage workers, Mr. Ware said he doubted that a higher minimum would cost his job. The Clinton Administra-



\$5.05 AN HOUR News vendors at the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan.



\$5.00 AN HOUR A parking-lot attendant on West 26th Street in Manhatran.

lion and many Democrats point to several recent academic studies that buttress this view. The best-known study was conducted by two Princeton professors, David Card and Alan Krueger, who surveyed 331 fast-food restaurants in New Jersey when the state raised its minimum wage by 80 cents, to \$5.05 an hour, in 1992. (Ten states have minimum wages that are above the Federal level). The professors found that even though the restaurants gave the 19 percent increase to their many minimum-wage

workers, the higher minimum did not cause a drop in the restaurants' employment.

At the American Economics Association convention last January in San Francisco, Robert Solow, a Nobel Prize-winning economist, presided over a panel discussion in which conservatives and liberals crossed swords.

But, he said, a consensus emerged that "the employment effect of a moderate increase in the minimum wage would be very, very small."

Talking Head

# The Making of the Rhetorical Presidency

Continued from page 1

Source: Bureau or Labor Statistics.

pression was allowed in schools, that the same First Amendment that bars establishment of a state religion also guarantees the free exercise of religion. He called for cutting or reshaping affirmative action programs that foster reverse discrimination or impose quotas, while defending the broad goals of affirmative action.

Then, in the autumn, he re-established his Democratic credentials, defining himself as the defender of education spending, environmental protection, Medicare and Medicaid. And in a third set of speeches, beginning with the State of the Union, he bas been taking stands — on the V-chip in television sets, school

# Rather suddenly, on theme upon theme, Clinton's speeches began to portray a man full of conviction.

uniforms and school competency tests — to build a Democratic, child-based values agenda of his own that strikes a chord in anxious parents.

As political tools the speeches have been masterful.

Mr. Clinton often speaks of values and proclaims things
to be flatly right or wrong, thus erasing the impression
he created in his first two years that he was short on
core convictions.

core convictions.

Theme by theme, Mr. Clinton has pulled up his favorable poll ratings in such a methodical way that if he wins re-election in November journalists and political strategists will probably be able to go back like archeologists and examine the new strata of support he

gained with each new speech series. But is this governance? Will ti

But is this governance? Will there come a time when the American public will be tempted to shriek like Eliza Doolittle to her suitor Freddy, "Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words!"?

### **Limits of Exhortation**

"I think speeches can only carry you so far," said Stephen Hess, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. "It is the bully pulpit, but ultimately you can only do so much exhorting. In some ways I think he's almost reached the limit of it."

Certainly that is what Senator Bob Dole is counting on when he tries to turn his own inability to articulate a vision into a plus by criticizing Mr. Clinton as all talk. Some of Mr. Clinton's aides argue that in this overamplified age a Presidential speech works like a book that in tillingly. The President makes a speech

bank shot in billiards. The President makes a speech. The speech redounds and mobilizes public opinion. And public opinion moves another sector of society to act. They point to Mr. Clinton's discourses on the V-chip, noting that after he spoke repeatedly about how it would allow parents to control what their children

watch and then summoned entertainment executives to the White House, the executives agreed to produce a voluntary television rating system. But that downplays the fact that telecommunciations legislation that Mr. Clinton had signed contained

ratings system, the Government would.

There is also a question of whether a speaker is leading public opinioo or following it. The historian Doris Kearns Goodwin notes that when John F. Kennedy in a campaign speech called for the peace corps, "people came forward and wanted to join this non-existing organization. There was something out there, a chord he was touching, but he gave it a name."

another prod: if the industry didn't come up with a

Was Mr. Clinton doing the same thing last week when, appearing before a conference of governors in Palisades, N.Y., he spoke out against "social promotion" in schools and called on the states to use competency tests? Or was he, as a number of Republican governors charged, simply usurping an idea that they had already agreed on, giving it his own imprimatur?

Even if that is the case, the public is not objecting. "The first years of the Clinton Presidency one did not see him using his rhetorical power," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, the dean of the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania. "You now see bim using the rhetorical power of the Presidency."

She added, "The ootion that you need to pass things as an indication of leadership is an archaic notion in an age in which the premise of the Republican Congress is that less government is better."

### A Man of His Words

President Clinton's speeches over the last year have onnounced new roles for himself and new themes for his Presidency. A sompling:

Dallas, April 7, 1995: "We have entered a new era. For years, out here in the country, the old political categories have basically been defunct; and a new political discussion has been begging to be born. It must now be so in Washington as well. The old labels of liberal and conservative, spender and cutter, even Democrat and Republican are not what matter most anymore. What matters most is finding practical, pragmatic solutions . . . . ldeological purity is for partisan extremists."

Georgetown University, July 6: "We can't restore the American dream unless we can find some way to bring the American people closer together. Therefore how we resolve these differences is as important as what specific position we advocate. I think we have got to move beyond the vision and resentment to common ground. We've got to go beyond cynicism to a sense of possibility."

Houston, Qct. 17: "And we don't have to go back to the time where we say to an elderly couple, if they're lucky enough to both live and be happy and they're way up in their 70's and 80's and they're still together, but they don't have much money and one of them needs to go into a nursing home, you've got to sell your car, you've got to clean out your bank account or you spouse can't get any help. Do you really want to give those people that choice? I don't We'don't have to. It's in their budget, but we don't need it to balance the budget. And f'm going to fight it. It's not right. It's not right."

Long Beach, Calif., Feb. 24, in praise of school miliorms: "They slowly teach our young people one of life's most important lessons — that what really counts is what you are and what you can become on the inside, not what you are wearing on the outside. And at least on that score, I think you can make a serious argument that this school uniform benefits the children of affluent families as much as it benefits the children of poor families, because that is a lesson that all our children need to learn."

# The World

# Europe Isn't Divided In Its Joblessness

By CRAIG R. WHITNEY

HE European Union is deep in crisis, perhaps the worst of the decade. It is not about beef, the problem that pre-occupied leaders of its 15 nations Friday in Turin, where they had planned to kick off a conference on how to handle expected expansion, but about the one thing that truly unites them: unemployment.

That has now reached a European-wide average of 11 percent, nearly double the rate in the United States.

Pitting alienated European working-class populations against unemployed immigrants, "Dickensian" Britain against "socially advanced" continental welfare states, chronic unemployment has undermined the optimism and self-confidence that created European unity after World War II.

It is the one problem this generation of European leaders seems to be able to do the least about, undermining the confidence of younger generations in unity as their best guarantee of peace and prosperity in the future. Germany, the economic engine of tha continent, is as severely affected as the rest.

As in America, the employment pattern has had to adjust to increased competition from low-wage manufactures from abroad. in Europe, in addition, the problem is compounded by social regulations that include heavy payments for health insurance, pensions and unemployment insurance, and such stringent protections against dismissal that companies think long and hard before hiring anybody...

Many economists are beginning to argue, therefore, that what the European welfare state produces most efficiently is joblessness. They say Europe simply has to consider lowering the minimum wage, shifting some burdens of paying for social benefits from payrolls to tax rolls and changing work habits that now put five- and six-week vacations ahead of productivity growth.

A passion for productivity can complicate the job market if it turns into a passion for downsizing as it has in the United States. but at least small businesses generate millious of jobs there. Not the high-paying kind, however, that Europeans think of as a right. 'French workers don't want to live like the Anglo-Saxons," union leaders warned during last December's strikes against the French Government's first attempt to whittle down the welfare state.

The leaders at Turin didn't set out to do that. France's President, Jacques Chirac, pressed them to reaffirm support for a high level of social protection, rather than see a spiral of competition to attract employers by undercutting wages and benefits.

### **Trains or Beef**

He also wanted them to get on finally with a series of large-scale construction projects on trans-European rail and communications networks that have long been discussed as potential job generators. But with billions needed to solve the spreading beef crisis, there may be little money left for construction projects.

Unable to do much about their problems, European leaders often take to denying they exist. Meanwhile, last month, Germany re-corded a post-World War II record of 11.1 percent unemployment. And if its economy slumps, France, where 11.8 percent are jobless, is almost sure to follow. The two are each other's biggest trading partners.



Unemployment has left youths in France, like these unemployed young men in Marseilles, deeply uncertain about the future.

Throughout the European Union, governmeots are all strapped and paring budgets to reduce debt built up by years of unemployment benefits for millions of people. Nobody knows of a simple solution except demagogues like France's Jean-Marie Le Pen, who wins ever larger vote shares by saying unemployment would disappear if immigrants - a disproportionate share of the unemployed — were just chucked our.

Many Europeans, like Americans, blame cheap labor overseas or immigration for their unemployment troubles, even though many big European companies have followed Volkswagen's example and agreed with labor unions to cut work hours and save jobs rather than dismiss employees.

European leaders met in Bangkok earlier this month hoping to create new jobs by stimulating trade with the booming economies of Asia, and employment ministers will meet with American, Japanese and

Canadian counterparts in Lille this week to discuss global unemployment.

Still, Britain felt it necessary five years ago to opt out of the European Union's "social charter," a codification of its welfare-state labor practices.

### A Corrosive Influence

The longer unemployment continues to be chronically high, the more corrosive the effects on self-confidence. In France, one recent survey of 500 people between 18 and 25 years old, taken by the Sofres organization, showed that more than half expected to be living less well in 20 years than they did now, compared to only about one in four Germans surveyed last summer by the Emnıd organizatlon.

Little wonder that French youth today are more worried about jobs than any generation since the 1930's. "I have grown up

surrounded by young people who can't find work when they finish their studies," said Véronique Ridel, a 22-year-old university graduate in Rheims. "They live with their parents, they can't collect unemployment benefits, they've never had jobs. If it weren't for my father, I'd be out on the

When French university students went on strike last fall, they were not trying to bring Marxism back or the Government down. They wanted the Government to spend more money on building better classrooms and hiring more professors, to give them a better shot at what jobs there may be.

Alienation is as much a part of European culture today as in the days of Jean-Paul Sartre and Albert Camus. But in an era of bewildering technological change, the new existential question is how to bring jobs back. Without an answer to that, the whole idea of Europe could be in trouble.

Living Helpless and in Hope

# It's Not Easy Being 'José'

MAZATIAN Mexico HERE are nearly 100 million Mexicans below the Rio Grande, but in the heat of an American election campaign they often are reduced to

For the American who fears for his job, there is just "Jose," a malevolent and suspicious partner who would take what the United States has. For the businessman who worries: about his investment, there is only a corrupt and indifferent Mexican system to be wary of. For a candidate who plays on fears, there is nothing but an unwelcome neighbor whose very language and culture are threats.

The truth is that even for the Mexicans themselves, these times are a puzzle. But in trying to understand the complexity of their lives, there is perhaps one good place to start: the perpetual coexistence, for most, of both hope and helplessness.

Consider the experience of a small group of women in this shrimp-catching port on the central Pacific coast.

5 3 300 3

These are hard times for Mexicans, as they struggle through ferocious economics and poisonous politics, and it became especially so last Sept. 14 in Mazatlan, when the luck of the shrimp men just ran out.

It was the season when men bet their lives against the weather to make the first

Mexicans face storms

and the Government,

catch, which provides 70 percent of the

yearly harvest they export to the United

States. Last September a tempest called

Ismael sent to the bottom some 200 men on

50 boats, one of them called The Hurri-

cane. Survivors said a government weath-

Six months after the storm, some of the widows have formed what is probably the

first women's fishing cooperative in Mexi-

co. They have petitioned the Government

to turn over three old shrimp boats confis-

cated in drug raids. The women will rely

But now they have to contend with the

infamous Mexican system — which is in-

deed corrupt and indifferent. And this is

what is difficult for people north of the Rio Grande to understand. The Mexican peo-

ple tolerate this system, but they do not

trust it. It is, in a way, part of their face to

So the women can only wait for the boats

Casilda Rodriguez Morales, whose hus-

band and son went down on The Hurricane,

refuses to despair. With luck, she says, the

She remembers the morning when she

three ships will put to sea in September.

last talked, quietly in her still-dark kitch-

en, with her husband Arcadio and their 17-

year-old son Mauricio. "We were saving

for a washing machine," she says. The

men had been forced back to port by a

refrigeration problem on their boat

"Mami, there are many sbrimp," Mauri-

put up with n, like the hurricanes.

to be released to them.

on relatives to do the actual fishing.

both indifferent.

er warning came ton late.

Rosario Gonzales, left, Rosalina Sánchez Pérez, center, and María de Jesús Miramontes set out to inspect hoped-for boats (right).

cio told her. A good catch could bring \$3,000 - enough for the washer and to finish the small house they are building. "Many, many shrimp."

And then they were gone. Anyone who has seen a Mexican construction site, where men dressed in rags scamper up rough ladders shouldering five gallon tin cans of wet cement, knows that Mexicans accept hardship. In some Indian communities, corn stalks must be bent during the rainy reason so the rain slips off the husks and does not rot tha corn. This is made into a lesson for life: In order to survive, a person must accept hardship and be willing to be bent.

So now, surviving on a \$60-dollar-amonth pension, Casilda Rodriguez and her five remaining children expect little help from outside their family or the extended family of the shrimp cooperative. She is not surprised that the Government is dragging its feet on the legal process of giving up the three boats, which are docked at Mazatlán under Navy guard.

"We stupidly support the party at election time and then afterwards they forget us completely," said Rosario González, another shrimp women whose husband was trapped in an air-bubble in his overturned boat but died when a diver, contracted by the government, cut open an escape hole and let the air slip out.

### Not Expecting Welfare

So these are women who have learned not to expect the Government to solva their problems; at best they hope for permission - as with the three confiscated boats -- to help themselves. It is hardly the stereotype so often pre-

sented in the United States of Mexicans seeking to pour across the border to take advantage of welfare. "Look, if we could one day bave relationships among citizens in the States and citizens in Mexico, we would both be surprised at what we are," said Vicente Fox, a central state governor and prominent opposition politician. "Unfortunately, the only relationship now is through politics, and that's completely deviated from what we really are."

Outsiders often say that Mexico is hard to understand; a European ambassador here says serving in revolutionary Iran was easier than being in Mexico the last four years. For the sense of tragedy itself is complicated. Forged in the clash of Indian warriors and Spanish conquistadors, and unable to declare either side winner or loser, the Mexicans have from the beginning seen defeat as unavoidable, but not permanent.

### A National Depression

And the Mexican character today is not simply stiff upper lips and valor. There is corruption and indolence, and an almost primitive violence in much of life. And after more than 15 months of the worst economic depression in 60 years, some prominent Mexicans, like the columnist Raymundo Riva Palacio, think Mexicans suffer from a national depression.

These heirs of Mexico's revolution have taken this crisis calmly. For over the decades they have been fulled into acceptance by an overpowering triumvirate: single-party government, milquetoast labor unions and the powerful television network Televisa, which finds reporting on real crime distasteful even as il fills soap operas with rape, murder and betrayal.

There may be oo more practical symbol of the way Mexicans understand the relationship between hardship and hope than the block-and-concrete houses in which most poor Mexicans live. The walls of the ground floor go up first, and then steel bars are set in concrete to form corner posts. The bars extend several feet above the roof line and are capped with Coke bottles to keep them from rusting.

These are called "los castillos" - the castles - and they represent a hope, not in the system or the Government, but simply in the possibility that someday things will get better and that there will be enough money to build a second floor.

Casilda Rodríguez's husband left that September morning promising her that this would be the year to finish their house.

# Russia's Press Edits The Communist Out

readers take it for granted. But respected newspapers like Izvestia that are labeled democratic (as opposed to right-wing or left-wing) and that have been critical of the Yeltsin Administration until now, have switched their focus - and their undisguised hostility - to what they view as the greater evil, Mr. Zyuganov.

There is an undercurrent of revenge in the non-coverage of his candidacy. Since the Communists did not play fair when they ruled the country, the "democratic" newspapers figure, why should we?

It is fairly obvious why the state-controlled networks ignore Mr. Zyuganov their directors have made it clear they serve the President's interests first. But the privately-owned network NTV has been just as reticent. Stanislav Marmitko, the deputy news editor of NTV, explained, "We didni have a bureau nearby. So what if it is his first campaign trip, we're not obliged to cover it.

The Russian networks are doing some things that would be terrible breaches of journalistic protocol in the United States. It would be unthinkable for the president of CBS to formally advise the Clinton campaign; but Igor Malashenko, NTV's chief executive, will work as a top adviser to the Yeltsin re-election campaign.

Izvestia has recently published several pieces reporting rumors of splits within the party leadership, as well as more investigaic programs. All major non-Communist newspapers have run passionate editorials warning against Mr. Zyuganov's election. But the candidate's speeches and trips are barely covered. Igor Golembiovsky, the managing editor

of Izvestia, explained his decision not to send a reporter to cover Mr. Zyuganov: 'First, we have no correspondents in that area. Second of all, Zvuganov doesn't like Izvestia reporters. Third, we're not interested in it. As a leader and as a person - we've already got his number."

The Russian press evidently feels that it is better to ignore the candidate than to give him free air time and publicity. But there is a self-defeating aspect to such attitudes. Without close, daily scrutiny, Mr. Zyuganov can easily fudge facts and distort history with impunity. While every mistake and gross exaggeration of the American candidates on the campaign trail gets scrutinized, here they slide by undetected.

· Trying to appeal to nationalist sentiments by stressing his respect for the Russian Orthodox Church, Mr. Zyuganov Iold his audiences that Hitler told Nazi occupiers that to subdue the Soviet nation they would have to Install Protestant clergy in every village. An adviser to Zyuganov later cheerfully admitted the canididate was taking "poeuc license" with the facts. Without a truth squad to examine his statements, Russian reporters are giving Mr. Zyuganov license to spout a lot more than poetry.



At a Moscow rally, a Communist supporter holds a picture of Gennadi Zyuganov.

# **Ideas & Trends**

# On Trying to Name Famous Living Poets

By EDWARD ROTHSTEIN

OMORROW, according to T. S. Eliot, begins the cruelest month. Its sweet showers shall pierce March's thirst (Chaucer), its days shall promise uncertain glory (Shakespeare) and it shall arrive as if it possessed sweet, small, clumsy feet (e.e. cummings).

But this year April will also return the bardic compliments. It has been bluntly dubbed National Poetry Month. And among the sweet, small, clumsy steps that will mark the celebrations and promotions are readings, book displays, donated ad space in poetry and trade magazines and a contest to describe a new perfume, "Poème." The American Academy of Poets, whose idea it was, is spending \$130,000 (all but \$40,000 raised from grants and gifts). Publisher's Weekly wryly noted the tendency toward marketing by quoting Robert Frost:

No wonder poets sometimes have to seem So much more businesslike than business-

Their wares are so much harder to get rid

### Big at the Movies

But at least on the surface, poetry would hardly seem to need much of a hard sell. The movie "Il Postino" ("The Postman") may not have won the Best Picture Oscar last week, but it surely says something that an erotically and politically charged poet like Pablo Neruda should be celebrated on the big screen. Miramax's big push for this Italian movie included a CD of the sound-track that also presents Neruda's poetry read by an unlikely group of fans, including Wesley Snipes, Andy Garcia, Julia Roberts and Madonna.

"Il Postino" also joins a small tradition of recent films that have tapped into a public fascination with poetry. A collection of Auden's poems became a best seller after an elegy was read in "Three Weddings and a Funeral." In 1989, in "Dead Poets Society," Robin Williams tried to persuade a classroom of rich preppies that poetry offers liberation from hypocrisy, militaristic reglmentation and academic blather.

And while the number of poetry books published yearly in this country has dropped from a high of nearly 1,400 titles in 1979 to less than 900 in 1990, the figure is climbing again. Nightclubs are lurned over to partially improvised poetic riffs and beat-revivalist declamations. Workshops thrive. Bill Moyers has celebrated poetry's diversity on television and in print. The series of annual books of Best American Poetry, edited by the poet and critic David Lehman, are now printed in editions of 30,000 to 40,000 copies.



In the film "Il Postino," the poet Pablo Neruda (Philippe Noiret, left) reveals the power of poetry to a postman (Massimi Troisi).

"We are in an incredibly fertile period in American poetry," Mr. Lehman says, in which the quality of recent work by senior poets — James Merrill, John Ashbery, Richard Wilbur, W. S. Merwin, Mark Strand — "matches any In this century."

But there is a sobering undercurrent to this enthusiastic embrace of the art form. When Joseph Brodsky died early this year, his fellow Russian poet Tatyana Tolsiaya wrote a moving tribute in The New York Review of Books. "Joseph, will you come to Russia?" she asked him during a brief meeting in 1988. Mr. Brodsky demurred. "Don't be coy!" Miss Tolstaya remonstrated, reminding him of the acclaim that would be his. "They won't leave you alone," she said. "They'll carry you"through the streets." The poet would be borne aloft to Moscow, to St. Petersburg, "on a white horse, if you like," she added. Miss Tolstaya pleaded for his readers - the librarians, museum workers, poor communal apartment dwellers, old ladies of the intelligentsia — to no avail. Mr. Brodsky may have preferred the public anonymity here that left him free to work.

For there is no poet here who could conceivably be treated as Miss Tolstaya believes Mr. Brodsky would have been in Moscow, For all the appeal poets have in movie theaters and hip clubs, there are no contemporary poets who have an illuminaled role in the national consciousness.

### **Dearth of Godheads**

During the 19th century, such a condition would have seemed unthinkable. Goethe, Wordsworth, Byron and Tennyson loomed over their eras like mythic godheads. Even in this country, for a time, a poet could represent the consciousness of a nation; that was goal of Whitman and even middle-brow poets like Carl Sandburg. But the last truly public poet was Robert Frost, who read at John F. Kennedy's inauguration. In the 1960's, Allen Ginsberg or Robert Lowell

were figures of national importance, but their constituencies were more oarrowly defined than Frost's.

The most literate citizens today would be hard put to name the last few poet laureates of the United States (Robert Hass currently holds the title). President Clinton even by-passed the laureate at his inauguration to give the incantatory role to Maya Angelou, whose celebration of multiculturalism was

more the point than the quality of her verse.

For all its supposed popularity, poetry has much less centrality than it has had in the past. The appeal of the word has been weakened by the age of the screen. The most successful public examples of new poetry may be those that adopt the ideas and techniques of pop culture. And as in the other arts, ethnicity and politics have created poetic subcultures.

Consider "Dead Poets Society," which unintentionally showed why the position of the poet has changed so dramatically since. Frost. Its story takes place in 1959 in a

stuck-up boarding school where student assemblies are marked by banners proclaiming adherence to tradition and discipline. Robin Williams explodes onto the scene, an embodiment of the imminent counterculture of the 80's. He has the students rip out an academic introduction to their poetry texts; he declines to teach meter and emphasizes poetry as form of self-expression. He inspires the students to meet secretly at midnight in a cave where Romantic poetry is spiced with music and the sentiments of the Beats. Poetry becomes a force for political, personal and artistic liberation.

### Popular Rebels.

The movie, for all its manipulation and caricature, captured an allegorical truth. In 1959 these sentiments were indeed prelude to a watershed in literary culture. The discipline of writing and the study of literary traditions — the brooding consideration of image and sound and reference — were displaced by ideas of theater and performance, freedom and self-expression. These ideas have survived in the more populist varieties of recitation. But others now play the liberationist roles better than poets. It is no accident that the "Postino" CD features readings by movie stars and rock stars.

So the poet is left in a peculiar position. The old role of statesman and seer has become outmoded; the new role of rebel has become superfluous. The public image of the poet then is more ambiguous. This was even true in "Il Postino." Neruda, like Mr. Williams's character, is a personal and political liberator.

But the film adds an element of irony. Unlike the original novel, "Burning Patience," by Antonio Skarmeta, which is set in Chile and ends with the postman's arrest by the military junta following the assassination of President Salvador Allende Gossens, the movie is set in Italy and makes the postman's Neruda-inspired conversion to Communism seem much more tragic, Neruda himself seems careless about the effect he has upon the postman, even a bit frivolous in his attentions. The film loves language but also raises doubts about its impact; it celebrates the poet as an imposing figure but also worries over his influence.

So the rumance of the Dead Poets Society is replaced with something a bit more frail and human — which may, in the long run, be helpful. Rebellious heroes and liberationist doctrines have become the stuff of pop culture and prattling verse. Mr. Brodsky may have that it right: his public role was just to tend to his craft.

Others agree. In the midst of all those multiplying workshops and well-advertised readings are readers and writers engaged in difficult, solitary pursuits, at the margins of American culture, waiting for signs of an early spring.

Right to Die

# Life After Quinlan

By JEFF STRYKER

WENTY years ago today, the New Jersey Supreme Court issued its landmark 7-0 ruling in the case of Karen Ann Quinlan. The court found that the constitutional right of privacy was broad enough to encompass a person's decision to forgo life-sustaining medical treatment in certain circumstances. It also said Joseph Quinlan, her father, could make the decision on her behalf.

For the Quinlans, the court's ruling was a step in a painful odyssey that began on April 14, 1975, the day Karen Ann Quinlan inadvertently ended her sentient life by consuming a combination of Valium and gin. For the nation, it was the beginning of the right-to-die movement.

### **Away From Home**

As recently as the 1950's, more than half of American deaths took place in the home. Today, 80 percent of the roughly two million American deaths a year take place in a health care institution, with doctors controlling the manner and timing of death. Improvements in medical technology now not only extend life, they also prolong dying. And they can maintain the bodies of people who are permanently unconscious.

There are now 5,000 to 10,000 permanently unconscious people in this country. The longest coma on record is that of Elaine Esposito, who died in 1978 after spending 37 years and 111 days unconscious following an appendectomy at the age of six.

But the most famous case is still Karen Ann Quinlan. Once the court had ruled that she could be disconnected from the respirator, six weeks passed before the the doctors unplugged it. Then Ms. Quinlan confounded the experts by breathing on her own for nine more years, without regaining consciousness.

In the last third of her life, she bore little resemblance to the young woman pictured in her high school

Jeff Stryker is a health policy analyst in San Francisco.

yearbook — the picture that became an icon of the right-to-die movement. Her weight dropped to 65 pounds, her body curled into a fetal position and her eyes wandered at random. She died on June 11, 1985. Since then, a number of bizarre

cases have drawn national attention to people whose bodies are maintained by machines but whose minds have disappeared. Most recently, a 29-year-old woman who had been comatose for 10 years and was raped at the nursing home where she lived in Brighton, N.Y., gave birth on March 18 to a healthy baby boy.

Before that, there was Gary Dockery, the Tennessee police officer who woke up on Feb. 12, some seven years after being shot in the head. His awakening was not as miraculous as it originally sounded. He had been in a "locked in" state — at times aware and able to communicate by blinking.

Such cases have raised questions about the role of medicine in the twilight between life and death, and have given a coocrete meaning to an abstract question: "Where is their

This question was raised by Ala Auersperg, both of whose parents became permanently comotose. Her father slipped into a coma after a car accident and died 10 years later; her mother, Sunny von Bulow, lapsed into unconsciousness in 1981 after an overdose of insulin and is taken care of at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan.

This ill-defined region between life and death is now a hotly contested area. Some are arguing that death should be redefined to include people who have lost the higher brain functions that permit thought but retain brain stem functions that permit breathing and swallowing.

### The Indignities

Others are fighting to allow people who are merely severely brain damaged to die. In 1987 Michael Martin was paralyzed and brain damaged by a car accident. His wife, Mary, is seeking permission to remove his feeing tube, saying he would not have wanted to suffer his situation



Karen Ann Quinlan, 1975

(including being dressed up as an M&M for Halloween). But the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that the tube should not be removed. And last month the United States Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal.

For some, the Quinlan case was a high water mark in the right-to-die debate. For others, it is a precipice below which there is a giant slippery slope leading to out-and-out murder.

Recently, much of the debate has shifted from the issue of whether treatment should be withdrawn from the permanently unconsious to the issue of whether active measures should ever be taken to end the lives of the terminally ill. (Dr. Jack Kevorkian's physician-assisted suicides are the best-known cases.)

Still, the courts are grappling with the rights, status, proper treatment of the permanently unconscious. And health care analysts are toting up the cost of keeping them alive. A 1994 New England Journal of Medicine report estimated the costs of caring for the thousands of permanently unconscious people at between \$1 billion and \$7 billion annually.

The human costs are even more devastating. Could any parent not see what compelled the Quinlans to make the 37-mile drive to visit their comatose daughter thousands of times, or understand their practice of leaving a radio on in her room?

Karen Ann Quinlan's legacy is evident in two decades of court cases involving the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment. She still provides a touchstone for the families whose own dilemmas about dying have plucked them from obscurity and landed them in the public spotlight.

# Thoroughly Modern Scare: The Logic of 'Mad Cow'

Continued from page I

announcement of a suspected link between a falal brain disease in cattle, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or B.S.E., and a similar one in bumans, Creutz-feldt-Jakob disease. Scientists tracking the disease had turned up 10 cases of a new variant that uncharacteristically afflicted young people.

The story was not new: for six years there had been speculation about a link between the two. The story of mad cow disease was an on-again, off-again staple of the tabloids. But the problem was always on the periphery. The Government denied the link, and many disregarded the reports as they dug into the traditional Sunday "joint," or roast.

Not so this time. Sales of beef plummeted 70 percent, cattle markets were deserted and the European Union imposed a ban on its export worldwide. Mr. Major blamed "hysteria" and said it was whipped up by the press and opposition politicians.

But truth was, there was ool hysteria loose in the land. What there was was deep concern, a calculated decision to stop eating beef until the situation clarified, and a sudden, total lack of confidence in what the Government or its scientific experts were saying. The suspicions that had been building up for six years suddenly reached a critical mass and the result was a spontaneous boycott. Hamburger chains stopped serving British beef not because it was deemed unsafe but because people refused to eat it.

On a practical level, there was some reason for skepticism. The Government said beef products currently on the market were risk-free because a 1989 law forced slaughterhouses to dispose of the bovine offal—brains, spine and related parts—thought to carry the infection. But people know that laws are one thing and obeying them another. Surprise random inspections in September showed that half of the slaughterhouses were in violation of the regulations.

## Keeping Secrets

The problem began, many believe, when feed containing infected sbeep remains was fed to cattle as a protein supplement; farmers were supposed to dispose of the infected feed, but some of them undoubtedly used up their remaining stock. Up until 1990 the Government paid a farmer only 50 percent compensation for a cow afflicted with B.S.E., so there was an incentive for farmers to keep the disease hidden. Last week a farmer weot on trial in Dunster for 34 offenses of alterating declarations that claimed — falsely — that his herd was free of B.S.E.

that his herd was free of B.S.E.

The Government's denials were not believed in part because many feel that its machinery of enforcement was not up to the job. The general lack of confidence in what Government officials were saying applied as well to what its inspectors and enforcers were doing. Scientific advisers were asked to quantify the risks of eating beef, or coming down with the

disease from having eaten beef before 1989, and they were stumped. How were they to know if the 10 cases represented a blip from an unusual and minor disease strain or the beginnings of a massive epidemic? Some stammered inarticulately — which was itself taken as a sign of covering up — and others blurted out night-mare scenarios.

Few understood that when it comes to safety in food, the perception of risk is not mathematical. It's psychological. One young man who gave up beef explained his decision this way: "They say the risk of getting the disease is one in a million or about the same as winning the lottery. And that may be true. But every week I play the lottery."

A psychologist in a London suburb, who served American guests fish last Sunday instead of the traditional roast, said she thought the beef crisis crystalized "all our fears about what goes into food, about hormones and chemicals and genetically engineered

### The British were gripped not by hysteria, but by a crisis of confidence.

tomatoes and all the other things in the environment that we can't control."

In other words, runaway science itself was on trial. It was undoubtedly a coincidence in timing, but only two weeks before the scare over mad cow disease, which is thought to have originated in the centuries old disease in sheep called scrapie, the front pages of newspapers carried photographs of two identical sheep. They were clones produced from a laboratory-grown cell, and occasioned a certain amount of clucking about the abominations that man is perpetrating upon nature.

With public faith shattered, the British Government's response to the crisis — adopting a partial ban on the sale of beef from older cattle — may not be dramatic enough to restore consumer confidence. Without it, British beef, and so Britain itself, is laid low.

As the Times editorial put it: "Other nations have bad their metaphorical mascots in nature threatened. America has seen the bison leave the prairies, giant redwoods felled and the baid eagle face extinction. The Russians have seen the sturgeon, whose eggs proclaimed imperial greatness as assuredly as M. Fabergé's, succumb to pollution. The French saw the vines which furnished their finest product blighted forever by phylloxera, and the Irish search for self-sufficiency has always been more urgently sought and more poignantly elusive since the potato famine.

"But none of these nations has suffered a blow, so precipitately, to its esteem as Britain this week."

**网络沙沙 工作书中 电**电

THINGS TO WATCH

Domestic market getting

need to ramp up capital

earnings.

**FALLING BEHIND** 

saturated, and discounters are

keeping up pressure on prices.

give company running start for

1996. Beyond that, company will

expenditures to retake market, but

that could put heavy pressure on

A comparison of Toys 'R' Us and the

Standard & Poor's retail store index,

with 100 equal to Nov 12, 1993

1995 restructuring charge should

### ECONOMY

# America's No. 1 Vendor of Playthings Plots a Comeback

By JENNIFER STEINHAUER

TANDING on the top floor of the Toys "R" Us store in Santa Monica, Calif., far above the endless racks of Monopoly games, Barbie dolls and coloring books, Diane Summers Craig was very much alone.

"Hello? Hello? Is anyone here?" Ms. Craig called out as she perused a deserted aisle of computer software.

At last, a clerk wandered over to help her, but acknowledged that she did not really know the differences among the computer programs for sale. The clerk added with a polite smile, "Someone will be here in a minute to help you." Frustrated Ms. Craig mumbled something about not having a minute, but waited for several of them any-

Another clerk came, but help was not forthcoming. "No one here really knows anything," huffed the mother of two young children before turning on her heel and leaving.

Wall Street has known for quite a while that the world's largest toy retailer is troubled. After 16 consecutive years of uninterrupted growth, the company's earnings took a 72 percent nose dive in the fiscal year that ended on Feb. 2, to \$148 million, largely due to a hefty restructuring charge.

Further, in a bull market in which the Standard & Poor's 500-stock index has risen more than 40 percent since the beginning of 1995, the stock price of Toys "R" Us has declined about 11 percent. Company shares, which went for \$42.875 at the end of 1993, stagnated in the \$20's for most of 1995, and closed Friday on the New York Stock Exchange at \$27, down 25 cents. Add it up, and the company has lost a staggering \$5.2 billion in market value, weighing in at \$7.5 billion from a pinnacle of \$12.7 billion.

Michael Goldstein, the chief executive of Toys "R" Us, has big plans to stem the

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The state of the s

bleeding. But he is caught in the classic trademark. Shoppers squeeze through quandary of the turnaround artist: if he charmless, colorless aisles, and pick spends too much on revamping his stores. he could wreck his already shaky profit margins; if he spends too little, his efforts may come to naught.

The company's fall from grace didn't happen overnight. In 1990, retail analysts treated Toys "R" Us as almost sacrosanct, projecting earnings growth of 25 percent a

Yet the company has come close to that target only once in the last six years - and then only after two lackluster ones.

Analysts give a variety of reasons for the reversal of fortune at Toys "R" Us, which just over a decade ago was rolling over its competition like a Tonka truck lumbering down a grassy suburban hillside.

They, speak of discount stores like Wal-Mart and Target ratcheting up the competitive pressure; of a dearth of creative new toys; of the fading popularity of the Power Ranger action figures, which accounted for huge sales the previous year.

But it is perhaps those retail analysts with children, the ones who have made a Saturday afternoon venture into that dizzying landscape of bikes, bath toys and a ubiquitous giraffe named Jeffrey, who know what parents indifferent to issues of market cap have known for years: while Toys "R" Us has what they're looking for, getting it can

come at a cost to their sanity. "I don't know a single retailer about which I hear as many complaints as Toys "R" Us," said Barry Bryant, an analyst at Rodman & Renshaw and the father of a 3year-old son. "You never know where anything is, and there is no one to help. And to make matters worse, children are enticed in there as if they were walking through one long candy store. All of these things combine to create a uniquely unpleasant shopping

experience for the parent." The supermarket style of selling playthings has always been the Toys "R" Us

WORLD INDEX

In U.S. dollars.

IN LOCAL CURRENCY

169.57

139.98

153.31

279.81

222.34

154.35

229.99

175.93

153.69

132.83

429.07

237.39

84.61

104.37

538.81

216.59

65.05

205.86

285.93

336.04

161.55

340.01

184.69

175.13

263.53

115.92

139.95

178.52

% Change

+0.03

-0.25

9.887.67

Year to date

% Change

7.8

1.0

134

1.0

5.3

5.7

3.2

11.7

9.1

11.5

5.7

3.3

13.6

13.3

8.5

0.6

3.8

7.7

9.4

6.4

11.0

6.5

4.1

4.7

Year ago

86.55

1.3720

1.3990

1.6215

Down 0.05%

186.36

Othe Moul Que sone of the

1.55

4.07

1.57

4.11

244

1.81

2.80

3.10

1.96

3.41

214

0.73

1.61

1.41

3.21

2.51

3.40

2.44

1.54

1.88

2.19

1.16

2.05

Prepared by Goldman, Sechil & Gd. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

4.6

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1.5262

2.3

3.5

% Chg. - Rank

**"13** 

16

24

3

23

26

10

18

22

12

15

20

21

IN U.S. OOLLARS

Rank

14

19

25

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11

· · 10

% Chg.

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1.2

-1.8

-0.1

-1.7

-0.8

2.5

0.4

Scurce Biographing Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

Down 0.79%

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Source. Goloman Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close

. Index

182.58

204.91

153.90

228.92

156.44

296.74

180.90

194.59

173,06

432.18

265.40

72.17

154.61

553.30

1,199.32

287, 17

83.44

236.50

440.83

171.81

343.64

250.26

178.85

263.53

187.72

184.03

209.27

Country

Australia

Austria

Betgium

Brazil

Britain

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Malaysia

Netherlands

New Zealand

Mexico

Norway

Spain

Sweden

Thailand

Europe

Singapore

South Africa

Switzerland

United States

Pacific Basin

Europe/Pacific

Exchange rate

DOMESTIC EQUITIES

Broad market

Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar

German marks to the U.S. dollar

Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar

U.S. dollars to the British pound

COMPOSITE INDICES

Germany

Hong Kong

He:

5-72

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1. = Nes . ಚ್ರಕ  $\Psi^{m,n}$ 

10 may 10 N 4500 through rows of crayoos, doll houses, video games and action figures, strung together like so many sausages, displayed often without care or accessibility.

Merchandise is often piled so high it is impossible to reach, particularly while holding a wailing 3-year-old whose eyes are wildly fixated on Mr. Potato Head.

And if a sales clerk can be unearthed, chances are his or her job is to stock, not to serve. "I usually feel like I am getting a price break and a lot of selection," said Cindy Read, a program administrator in Louisville, Ky., "But I don't look forward to going in there, seeing all these families fighting over toys. People are tired, parents seem annoyed - that is why f don't take my son there."

By offering a giant selection with very low prices and plenty of inventory, Toys "R" Us has been able to get away with this oo-frills, service-short shopping experience, and to do so in a way that has made shoppers all around the country abandon the competition, if begrudgingly.

.But times are changing in the world of fun and games, and parents have grown decreasingly interant of the lack of attention and the chaotic arrangements at Toys "R" Us, especially when they can find some of the goods for the same price, or better, at general discount stores.

Further, a growing oumber of so-called educational toy stores have cropped up, offering soothing worlds of purple carpeting and television screens to plop children in front of while mom and dad shop. And nibbling away on the baby end of the business is Baby Superstores, a 63-store chair based in Duncan, S.C.

Toys "R" Us has caught on to all of this, and is finally fighting back with oew store formats, including one with the sole mission of challenging Baby Superstores. But can the giant that built its war chest through pre-emptive strikes do as well playing catch-up?

When asked about his company's earnings trouble during a recent interview in his office in Paramus, N.J., Mr. Goldstein looked a bit like a basketball coach who just watched his team get pummeled in a play-

"It hurt," he said of the recent profit plunge. "Particularly for a company like ours that never experienced a decline in earnings. It was a rude awakening."

Then the coach recovers and plays to the fans. "But it energized us to do a better job," he said, smiling. "We see a lot of options in

Toys "R" Us has enjoyed a glittering

history. The country's first category killer - industry argot for giant warehouse-style stores that offer the most of one type of merchandise - it toppled Child World, Kiddie City Toys and countless regional stores during the 1980's. It oow easily dominates the market, with more than \$9 billion in annual sales and 650 stores in the United

Even after the company's expansion slowed in the early 90's, the prospect of overseas growth kept investors' hopes alive. Several analysts remember conference calls in 1993 in which Toys "R" Us executives promised gains of as much as 50 percent in the company's international business. But many of the stores have failed to deliver. "We gave projections, and we didn't meet them," Mr. Goldstein said.

Each foreign market threw its own curveball at Toys "R" Us: a sluggish economy in Germany, a Christmastime strike in France and strong local competition in Australia.

But while those forces were beyond its control, the company also made some strategic missteps, like choosing poor locations, and failing in negotiate prices on merchandise and real estate.

With its fortunes sagging at home and abroad last year, the retailer desperately needed a hot Christmas. Instead, it got slammed when no new video or toy products arose to rival the phenomeoal success the previous year of the Power Ranger action figures and the spinoffs from the Disney hit movie "The Lion King." Worse, discount stores slashed prices, forcing everyone to

After the disappointing holiday season, Toys "R" Us announced that it would take an after-tax restructuring charge of \$270 million, equivalent to \$397 million pretax, to close 22 stores in the United States and Europe and to consolidate distribution and administrative offices. Company officials acknowledge that the charge includes other sundry expenses, like inventory writedowns. While the restructuring announcement caused them embarrassment, the charge makes it much easier for the company to achieve its fiscal 1997 earnings targets.

A disclosure in January that the Federal Trade Commission had targeted Toys "R" Us in an antitrust investigation only made matters worse. The inquiry stemmed from

EPS AND DOWNS

Up 0.05%

207.12

Toy Story

A Not-So-Hot

Relailers of toys and children's

Friday's closing price \$27.00 52-week \$20.50-\$29.50 trading range Markel capitalization \$7.4 billion

year ended 2/3/96 \$9.4 billion Earnings. after \$270 million \$148.1 million restructuring charge 53¢/share

Last year's \$531.8 million earnings \$1.85/share 25.5%

5.& P. 500 Price to earnings 15 15.4 (estimated 1996 earnings)

**29**3

cross-shopping. "This is a big change from what we have been doing," said Mr. Goldstein, standing next in models of the three stores that slt alone on a table in a conference room, "We think it is going to be great for us."

TOYS "R" US

'95

As Mr. Goldstein tells it, the fix he has in mind doesn't have to tie up a lot of cash and wreck margins. But much as he would like, he can't have it both ways. If the roll-out is so guarded and snail-like, how much good can it really do and how long will it take?

"It is quite expensive," Mr. Goldstein said, looking into the model of the Concept 2000. "We would like to remodel all of our stores this way, but it depends on sales increases."

He declined to say exactly how much this will cost, but analysts estimate that the company's capital expenditure budget in the current fiscal year will run in the neighborhood of \$650 million, well over the \$586 million the company spent last year...

How much the company ultimately spends on the overhaul "is absolutely material," said Peter Kupferberg, a portfolio manager at Gofen & Glossberg in Chicago, whose firm has slowly unloaded much of its holdings in the stock. "If they can't stick to their numbers, that will only push margins further."

At \$27 a share, or 15 times next year's estimated earnings, about equal to what the overall market fetches, Toys "R" Us stock is not worth buying unless the company's management can keep sales growing at about 11 percent a year - and fatten net margins back over 5 percent, more than triple last year's dismal performance. This will be no easy trick if the company is also paying for expensive make-overs.

Many investors think that Toys "R" Us has gone about as far as it can in the United States, where it has captured about 23 percent of the \$23 billion toy-and-video market. In their view, it will need strong interna-

tional growth to push earnings growth. 'They can put up these new stores, but they are pretty saturated," said Greg Jackson, a portfolio manager at Yacktman Asset Management in Chicago, which has invested about \$1.3 million in Toys "R" Us. "The tremendous growth potential is internation-

al, particularly in Japan."
He said Toys "R" Us did not have a Kmart or a Wal-Mart in do in it overseaswhat they did to it here. The company has 37 stores in Japan and will add 14 more this year, putting it in a dominant position in that

Another drag on domestic growth could be shopper inertia. "The perception of bad customer service at Toys was built up over many years and I think even at places where you've seen improvement, shoppers may not see it right away," said Sean P. McGowan, a retail analyst at Gerard Klauer

Mr. Jackson said he was looking for the shares to increase by about \$8 to about \$35 over the next 18 months as the company's earnings growth rebounds. "If you compare it historically, this stock is extremely cheap." he said. "But we are looking at slower growth rates for the future."

Sources: Bank Rate Monitor, Bloomberg Financial Markets, The Bond Buyer: Datastream:

Sales,

DebF to capital

Price to book 2,2 3.9

Dividend vield

complaints by wholesale clubs that the big retailer unfairly used its marketing power

to discourage manufacturers from selling

0% 2.2%

popular toys to them, Mr. Goldstein neither confirmed nor denied the accusations.

Most analysts scoff at the investigation as a Washington sideshow, but antitrust lawyers are less dismissive. "It is quite serious," said Richard M. Steuer, a parmer at the law firm of Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler in New York. "There are few categories where you have a retailer with as much power as Toys is perceived to have, so however it comes out is likely to set a precedent for other categories."

The F.T.C. is expected to conclude the investigation within a month.

But Toys "R" Us has even larger themes to wrestle with. Like many retailers that enjoyed boom days a decade ago, it must find new ways to lure in 1990's shoppers who have become accustomed to price wars and their spoils, and who are eager for fresh concepts and new merchandise. In the 80's, all a retaller had to be was big and omnipresent. Now, it really needs to be clever.

This has sent the entire industry to the analyst's couch: Every retailer wants to know what it has done wrong, and how it can be better, more self-aware and more of a participant in its relationships with shoppers. But seducing new shoppers does not come by tweaking existing concepts - it comes from reinventing them. This is the challenge for Toys "R" Us.

To fend off interlopers and make its stores more inviting, Toys "R" Us is fighting back in three ways. First, it plans to roll out new stores known as Concept 2000, in both new locations and existing sites. These stores will be an aesthetic antidote to the current spaces, which have the charm of a tenement basement.

The 45,000-square-foot stores will have wider aisles and lower racks, so shoppers can see where things are and reach the merchandise. Each store will have a skylight. Colored tiles will replace the current gray floors, and fixtures will be festooned with colorful toyland icons. Employees who assemble bikes will do so in an open space, Santa's-workshop style, in the back of the store. The first of 16 Concept 2000 stores will go up in Raritan, N.J., this year.

Then there's Babies "R" Us, a superstore devoted to the oeeds of the under-5 set. There will be furniture, clothing, diapers and formula, complete room models in the back and the all-important baby registry. Eight to 10 of these surres will pop up in 1996,

the first in Westbury, L.I. Plan C brings together various ideas. In 1996, the company will put up two yet-to-benamed megastores: 90,000 square feet of toys and baby offerings that marry all of the stores' concepts, including Kids "R" Us, under one roof. All Toys "R" Us stores are meant to have better customer service.

In the front of the giant marts, there will be a food vendor, most likely a McDonald's; a party room; a haircut salon, and a photo studio, all leased in franchisers. Elsewhere, there will be entertainment centers, breastfeeding rooms and a "castle" containing little girls' fitting rooms smack next to traditional girls' toys, intended to encourage

**Prior Friday** 

106.86

1,4761

1.3627

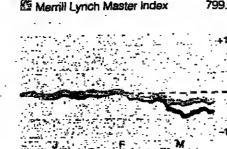
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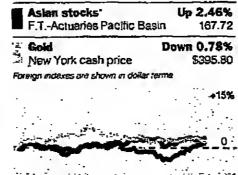
March 25-29: Stocks Slide on End-of-Quarter Window Dressing AROUND THE WORLD DOMESTIC BONDS

Treasuries

Ryan Labs. Total Return S & P. 500 index Up 0.17% Asian stocks' Down 0.88% Blue chips F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin Bond Buyer index 114.44 5,587.14 Dow 30 industrials Up 0.03% Up 0.39% Small capitalization Merrill Lynch Master Index 799.13 New York cash price 330.77 Russell 2000 index

+15% 90-DAY RELATIVE TREND





European stocks

F.T.-Actuaries Europe

Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs YIELDS 80NDS 6.67% Long bonds 30-year Treasuries Up 3 basis pts. 5.74% Short bonds 2-year Treasuries Down 1 basis pt. 5.96% Municipals Bond Buyer index Up 1 basis pt. 100 basis points = 1 percentage point

+15090-DAY RELATIVE TREND Change in basis points.

-150

OTHER INVESTMENTS Money market funds 4.74% Down 5 basis pts. Taxable average 4.74% Bank C.D.'s Up 4 basis pls 1-year small savers 2,22% Stocks S.& P. 500 dividend yield Up 1 b.p +150 Change in striog elasd

# The New York Times

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# Russia's Imperial Aspirations

The latest unwelcome detour in Russia's transition from Communism to democracy is serious talk in Moscow of reconstituting the Soviet Unioo or some variation of it. It is alarming to find this idea back in vogue so soon after the repressive Soviet empire was broken up. Responsible political leaders in Russia must strongly oppose the notion that the Kremlin might someday seek to reassert control over its oeighbors.

For now, the possibility of a new imperial Russia seems extremely remote. Moscow is preoccupied with domestic problems. It lacks the wealth and military power to reclaim the former territories of the Soviet Union, most of which fiercely prize their newly won independence. The once feared Russian Army is a gutted, demoralized force that in 15 months of fighting has been unable to subdue even the irregulars of Chechnya.

Over the next few years, Russia may develop benign forms of voluntary economic and political union with several of the newly independent states on its border. On Friday, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Belarus signed ao agreement to form a common market. The Slavic peoples of Russia. Belarus and Ukraine share cultural, religious and linguistic connections that draw them together even as distinct national identities pull them apart.

Belarus and Russia were already moving toward closer ties and previously announced plans to form a political union of sorts. Both countries may profit if the partnership is balanced and they cooperate in dealing with common economic and environmental problems.

Yet even this relationship has obvious disadvantages for both Moscow and Minsk, With Its unsteady economy, the last thing Russia needs is the burden of supporting Belarus's failing industrial base. After decades under Soviet rule, Belarus knows it must guard against partnership with a country accustomed to dictating terms to its small-

But over the longer term, especially if a Communist or nationalist is elected president of Russia, the threat of Russian territorial expansion cannot be utterly dismissed.

The loss of empire and superpower status rankles many Russians. Several presidential candidates, including Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist leader, have preyed on the resentment with vague promises to restore Moscow's dominion. The parliament, dominated by Communists and oatiooalists. recently approved a noo-binding resolution disavowing the 1991 treaty that dissolved the Soviet Union.

Imperial aspirations are fueled by a widespread view that Moscow must do something to protect the interests of the 30 million ethnic Russians who remained behind in the former Soviet republics when the unioo collapsed in 1991. Almost overnight, Russians in places like Lithuania, Estonia and Uzbekistan went from a privileged, protected elite to a scorned minority.

There are more than a few Russians on the political fringe, mostly unrepentant Communists and extreme nationalists, who believe that the collapse of the Soviet Union was engineered by the Central Intelligence Agency and other Western spy services to open Russia's natural resources to outside exploitation. For them, Russian hegemooy is a birthright that must be restored.

Boris Yeltsin is navigating cautiously through these rapids as he campaigns for re-election as president. His endorsement of the proposed union between Russia and Belarus and Friday's common market agreement were clearly designed to convince voters that he can expand Russia's influence. His quick denunciation of the parliamentary resolution rejecting the dissolution of the Soviet Union shows he knows there are limits.

While his equivocal approach may seem politically shrewd, Mr. Yeltsin would do his countrymen a favor if he addressed the issue squarely and made plain to everyone that Russia undermines its own interests by harboring territorial ambitions. Mr. Zyuganov, for his part, should recognize that any claim he makes to responsible leadership is discredited by his manipulation of this issue. There is no place for a new empire in Russia's future.

# Mr. Starr's Conflicts

As a practical matter, the work of Kenneth disqualify himself from decisions involving the Reswater, is too far along to start over. That means it is essential for Mr. Starr to take steps to clear up the R.T.C. had sued his firm, Kirkland & Ellis. conflicts of interest that are hanging over his investigation. Such steps are especially important since Mr. Starr has said he will make some public comment on his investigations before the election. The public has a lot riding on the quality of Mr. Starr's legal work, and he will fail in his public responsibility by clinging to the narrow reading of conflict-ofinterest rules that has allowed him to split his time between his public duties and work at his law firm.

Mr. Starr's appearance problems began with the court appointment itself in August 1994. One appointing judge, David Sentelle, had lunched with two of the President's chief senatorial critics. Mr. Starr, a former judge and Sollcitor General, had done legal work for a conservative women's organization involved in a lawsuit against President Clinton. At the time we called for Mr. Starr to resign because we did not want the search for the truth about Whitewater to go forward under a partisan

Mr. Starr stayed on, and instead of distancing himself from his \$1 million-a-year law practice, he has continued to dabble in big, politically flavored cases at a time when his public responsibility should be his sole priority.

He represented a conservative foundation with an anti-Clinton record in a school-voucher case before the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He represented major tobacco companies against government demands for their records. Theo he refused to

Starr, the independent counsel investigating White- olution Trust Corporation, an important ageocy in Whitewater matters, after being notified that the The law firm eventually paid a settlement of

\$325,000 in response to the R.T.C.'s charge that it had provided negligent representation to a failed savings and loan association. Mr. Starr was not involved in the negotiations and did not know about the suit at the time he was appointed as Whitewater counsel. Mr. Starr's ethics counsel, Sam Dash, the former Watergate Committee lawyer, says there is no need for Mr. Starr to distance himself from aspects of Whitewater involving the R.T.C. even though the agency accused his law firm of professional misconduct and he held a partner's interest in the firm's finances and reputation.

We disagree. Once Mr. Starr shouldered a case of this importance to the political process and, in this election year, to the voters' deliberations, he assumed an obligation to avoid any possible appearance of conflict and to devote his full energies to the case. Instead, he is spreading himself ever thinner. Witness last week's report that he has become a lawyer for one faction in the dispute involving the

Haft family's Washington drugstore chain. It would be foolish to start the case over, but it is not too late for Mr. Starr to assure the public of his full-time eoergy and his fairness. He oeeds to turn over all R.T.C. related matters to a senior deputy prosecutor, and he should take leave from his firm and all its cases until his Whitewater duties are over. The case demands a prosecutor who is eveohanded and unencumbered.

## **Abortion Politics**

In a move that seems as much a matter of politics as principle, Congress has voted to outlaw a particular type of late-term abortion method and impose criminal penalties on doctors who use it. Last week's vote in the House sends the bill to President Clinton, who has threatened a veto. The fact that the abortion issue is always volatile in a Presidential election year should not prevent Mr. Clinton from carrying out his threat.

The procedure to be banned, called a "partial birth" abortion in the bill and by anti-abortion groups, is used only after 20 weeks of gestation. While statistics are hard to come by, the method does not seem in be used often. About 13,000 of the nation's 1.5 million abortinns each year are performed after 20 weeks, usually because of special circumstances, such as a threat to the mother's health or severe fetal abnormalities. Only a small percentage of these late abortions employ the nutlawed method.

As described in the bill, the procedure is one in which the doctor "partially vaginally delivers a living fetus before killing the fetus and completing the delivery." Doctors found guilty of doing this can be imprisoned for two years and fined up to \$250,000.

But the description of the procedure is so vague that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, which opposed the bill, said it "employs terminology that is not even recognized in the medical community ..." The bill does include one exemption for doctors, co-sponsored in the Senate by the majority leader, Bob Dole. The penalties would not apply if the procedure was necessary to save a mother whose life was endangered by a physical disorder, illness or injury. But opponents of the bill argue that this exception is too narrow, ignoring, for example, cases in which the mother's life is threatened by the pregnancy itself.

Further, the exception may not satisfy the requirements of Roe v. Wade, which articulated the constitutional right to abortion. Roe and subsequent decisions recognized the state's interest in imposing some restrictions during the second and third trimesters, but those decisions did not try to dictate the methods that could be used. They also said that while the state could prohibit abortions after the fetus became viable, exceptions must be allowed to

preserve the mother's life or health. In a letter to Congress a month ago, Mr. Clinton urged that the exception be expanded to allow performance of the procedure if, in a ductor's judgment, it was necessary to "avert serinus bealth consequences" for a woman. Congress clung to its original position, giving Mr. Dole and the antiabortion forces an issue they hope to use against Mr. Clinton this fall. Mr. Clinton can help himself among the millions who believe in choice if he sticks tn his principles.

# Home Health Care Is Workable and Repairable

To the Editor:

The "experts" you cite who urge reduction in Medicaid home care services (front page, March 24) have muddled issues to justify the reductions being made in New York state. Here are some points:

 Transfer-of-asset problems do not justify inadequate care. New York law permits elderly and disabled people to pauperize themselves in qualify for home care services; the law does not make adult children financially responsible for their parents. This may nr may not be a "problem"; but if so, the solution is to change thes? laws, not to reduce Medicaid services.

 Provider overbilling is not equivalent to patient overuse. If there is such overbilling, the solution is to adjust the payments to providers, not to cut services to the needy. • That New York City provides

more personal aide services than elsewhere in the state does not means that the city is overgenerous. tt is equally likely that the rest of the state provides people less care than needed to avoid institutionalization. indeed, there are higher rates of Medicaid nursing home placements nutside the city. • The high cost of home care does

not show that the care is unnecessary. Medicaid provides different levels of home care depending on medical need, and only one level (24hour-a-day care) is more expensive than oursing home care. While oursing bome care is appro-

priate for some, it can be a horror for those who are able to remain in their own homes. We must decide if what

we want for those who are old and sick is minimum care to keep them. alive or a level that values individual autonomy.

New York, March 25, 1996 The writer teaches law and aging at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University.

In the Editor: Misuse of services and runaway costs should not detract from the success of New York's home care program (front page, March 24).

However, reform is required. Services that exceed need remain in place because there is no trigger



ning should be adopted as a gatekeeper to prevent misuse of home care service. A plan would be developed for each client specifying the duration of service and requiring re-

ductions in services so that the cor-

rect prescription is in place. Home care can foster an inappropriate dependence. The discharge plan could also require that as a client's health improves, he nr she receives services from the outpatient divisions of hospitals nr geriatric centers. Such a requirement would encourage older people to leave their apartments on a regular basis, thus reducing the isolation that often leads to deteriora-JACOB REINGOLO

ROSE DOBROF Bronx, March 27, 1996 The writers are, respectively, vice chairman, Hebrew Home for the Aged, and professor, Brookdale Center on Aging, Hunter College.

To the Editor: Re your March 24 news article on home health care in New York: Home care provides services to twice as many people as in nursing homes at one-third the cost to Medicaid. Figures comparing costs with other states include home- and communitybased services like Meals on Wheels, adult day care and transportation.

The figures also include New York State expenditures for noninstitutional long-term-care services but not Medicare expenditures. Many states listed in your chart do not spend Medicaid money on home care but use Medicare as a substitute, some providing patients with as many as 100 home visits. New York averages 41 visits per Medicare pa-. CAROL A. RODAT

Pres., Home Care Assn., N.Y. State Albany, March 25, 1996

### Minimum-Wage Debate Shows G.O.P. Hypocrisy

Deafness, Context and a Charge of Harassment

To the Editor:

To the Editor:

ing him "baby":

friends and adults.

impaired."

You report (oews article, March 27) nn how Senator Bob Dole averted an extended debate by Senator Edward M. Kennedy on raising the minimum wage. That was oot the first time Mr. Dole used his knowledge of the legislative process to block oegotiation of bills he is unwilling to debate. When the minimumwage issue was raised in the House, Republicans there also took measures to block it.

April I marks the five-year anniversary of the last Federal minimum wage increase. According to an NBC News poll, 72 percent of Americans back an increase in the minimum

A minimum-wage earner em-

Re Maureeo Dowd's "Baby-Talk

Censure" (column, March 28), oo the

sexual-harassment complaint made

by a Seoate staff member against a

Senate coffee-shop cashier for call-

Ms. Dowd writes that the superiors

of the complainant, Christopher

Held, said that he might be "particu-

larly sensitive because he is hearing-

1 am gerting my master's degree

in deaf education. A cornerstone of

my education is never to assume a

deaf student's contextual knowledge.

It can be assumed that most hear-

ing children have picked up on, say,

'Cinderella" along the way, not be-

cause they have read the story or

seen the movie but because they

bave heard the story referred to by

Many deaf studeots do not have

access to this incidental learning;

what they learn is what they are

Mr. Held may have encountered

baby" only as an endearment in

a bedroom scene in a captioned mov-

ie. Ms. Dowd spoke only to his superi-

ors. It would seem pertinent to find

ployed full-time earns \$8,840 before deductions. The poverty level for a family of two is \$10,030 and for a family of four, \$15,150. Since twothirds of minimum-wage workers are adults, and 4 in 10 are the sole breadwinners in their families, the

minimum wage is not a living wage

for a family of more than one.

President Clinton supports raising the minimum wage by 90 cents, to \$5.15 an hour. It's funny how Republicans tout the importance of ending welfare dependency: if they were truly interested in getting poor families off welfare, they would be taking steps to make it possi-

NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ Member of Congress, 12th Dist., N.Y. Washington, March 28, 1996

out why he himself was so disturbed.

And why does his being hearing-im-

paired make him more "sensi-

### On Social Security, Proceed With Caution

To the Editor:

Your March 27 editorial on the current enthusiasm for investing Social Security tax revenues in the stock market wisely urges caution. Before we make drastic changes in Social Security, we must have confidence that the expectations of our work force will not be jeopardized and our economy not disrupted.

There are questions to be answered. For example, would the Government undertake to guarantee against market gyrations a level of benefits to enable workers to plan for retirement? Would the Government's borrowing costs rise If the Social Security surplus were not available for that purpose?

How would our economy absorb this new capital? Would it be invested in less risky blue chins and index stocks, driving up their market power as well as their price (and the compensation of their chief execu-SARAH D. GALBRAITH tives)?

Washington, March 27, 1996 •

## What Imus Deserved

Madison, Wis., March 28, 1996.

JENNA FISCHTROM

To the Editor: Are Skewered at a Dinner" article, March 23):

The assault by the radio talk-show host Don Imus on national political and media leaders at the Radio-Television Correspondents Association dinner illustrates the depth to which political satire has sunk. Mr. Imus's diatribe was as devoid of genuine humor as it was vicious and insult-

Did anyone object or walk out? Did anyone threaten to punch Mr. Imus's teeth down his throat? President

Clinton just sat there. Mr. Imus was allowed to say what he thought. But we are also free not. to tolerate the intolerable, free not to allow ourselves to be gratuitously. DENIS KENNY assaulted. White River Jct., Vt., March 24, 1996

To the Editor:

Re "A Fresh Look at Social Security" (editorial, March 27): As a Congressional Engineering

Re "Unexpectedly, the Clintons and Science Fellow in the office of Representative George E. Brown Jr. in 1988, I and my colleagues were concerned about diminishing support for long-term research. One of us conceived the idea of using 1 percent of the annual Social Security revenue stream to make equity investments in emerging technologies.

When we floated the idea in Congress, we received zero support, a typical comment being that retirees would not consider moving from "safe" Government investments.

This proposal needs to be reconsidered. If long-term investments in research were only 50 percent as successful as the average venture capital deal, Social Security would be self-financed by CLARK E. JOHNSON Minneapolis, March 27, 1996

## CUNY, in Absorbing Budget Cuts, Doesn't Slight Liberal Arts

To the Editor:

"The Twin Crises at CUNY" (editorial. March 27) focuses on the board of trustees' March 26 declaration of financial exigency based on the proposed 1996-97 state budget, the same action taken in 1995. This declaration was brought on by assessment of the impact of a \$97 million shortfall on the senior colleges, and it begins a process of campus consultation nn contingency plans.

The declaration was oecessary so that faculty and student representalives can participate in deliberations before the spring semester ends. If the proposed cuts are ameliorated by actions in Albany, a reassessment will take place, as in past years. The board and the Chancellor will retain oversight of this process to assure the university's long-term interests.

I am concerned by the charge that the Chancellnr and, by implication, the board of trustees, is seeking to limit the liberal arts in favor of technical programs. Of the 132 programs closed nr suspended since 1993 as a direct result of fiscal stringencies, only 37 - about a quarter - were in liberal arts and sciences.

Since June 1993, 14 new degree

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address nnd telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 nr send by electronic mail in letters@nytimes.com, or by regulor mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

programs were approved in liberal arts and science programs. Only 7 percent of all retrenchments last year were liberal arts faculty, and they were restricted to two academic fields at two colleges.

liberal arts core while maintaining support for career-oriented pro-JAMES P. MURPHY Chairman, Board of Trustees City University of New York

ever, your assertion that "few people"

dispute the need for retrenchment" is

questionable. True, if we accept Gov.

New York, March 27, 1996

CUNY is committed to a strong

To the Editor: You express concern with the crisis at CUNY (editorial, March 27). How-

The New York Times Company 229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10036-3959

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Chair Chief Executive Officer LANCE R. PRIMIS, President AVID L. GORHAM, Senior Vice Pres Deputy Chief Operating Officer DIANE 2 BAKER, Senior Vice Presider Chief Financial Officer KATHARINE & DARROW, Senior Vice Pre

and tax cuts that benefit the rich. retrenchment is inevitable. But when I started working at

George E. Pataki's fiscal gimmickry

Brooklyn College in 1981, 780 professors were serving 15,000 students. Now, fewer than 500 are serving 16,000 students. Is there really a need to dismiss 50 additional professors orre? DAVID ARNOW Brooklyn, March 27, 1996 even more?

The writer is a professor of computer science, Brooklyn College, CUNY

### SUNY Hurts, Too

To the Editor: The budget problems you report for the City University of New York (news article, March 26) are also plaguing the State University of New York system. Without restoration of funds, we at SUNY will have to absorb a \$97 million reduction in state support next year, resulting in the loss of more than 2,000 faculty and professional staff jobs. Many students will be forced to drop out because of reduced tultion assistance. ... This shortfall, which is part of the

\$3.9 billion deficit projected for next year's state budget, results from the effects of last year's cut in personal income taxes (\$1.4 billion) and the second stage of those reductions, scheduled to go into effect next week (\$2.4 billion). Cancellation of next week's tax cut would solve more than half the current SUNY budget

problem. MICHAEL ZWEIG Stony Brook, L.L. March 27, 1996 LAURA J. CORWIN, Secretary The writer is a professor of economtcs, SUNTY

By James Boyle

today's newspapers would conclude

that the four most important aspects

of the information age are cyber-

potn, Windows 95, Newt Gingrich

and cyberporn. This is like saying

that the most important signposts

during the rise of industrial capital-

ism in America were mass-prodoced

pornographic magazines, Warren

Gamaliel Harding and the Veg-O-

To understand the age we have

entered, we need more than a mo-

dem, the Bill of Rights and a sub-

scription to Penthouse on line. We

need to figure out how the world

changes when information becomes

one of the most important forms of

from the pattern of purchases re-

realed by credit caronscension the

pattern of your D.N.A. can become a

byte of information, to be bought and

tion is that intellectual property

rights become very important.

Around the world, corporations are

lobbying their governments, de-

manding more expansive copyright,

patent, trademark and data-base

rights. Governments are complying,

granting monopolies over informa-

tion and information products that

make the monopolies of the 19th-

How robber

barons are

buying up the

information age.

century robber barons look like pen-

Intellectual property rights are be-

ing expanded dramatically, some-

times in surprising directions. Even

human genetic information has been

privatized. The gene that indicates a

predisposition to breast cancer, for

exampla — called BRCA1 — has

been patented by Myriad Genetics.

Harvard University even bas a pat-

ent (No. 4,736,866) on a mouse — the

Oncomouse — a transgenic species

engineered to be prone to cancer. But

beyond these examples, with their

Brave New World overtones, lies a

more general trend. We are in the

middle of an information land grab

There is a reason for this apparent

blindness. The information economy

is unfamiliar territory. When private

parties are allowed to exploit Fed-

eral land, we can all work out the

politics of the situation. We know the

arguments (and the interest groups)

for and against. But who wins and

who loses when the property at stake

is intellectual, and the struggle is

over the extension of a copyright

term or a software patent? As yet,

we have no politics of the informa-

tioo age; we don't see the linkages

between issues or perceive a com-

mon interest in apparently disparate

Who is affected by the politics of

intellectual property? Many groups

are, though they might not see it that

way. Some of the most innovative

software engineers have objected to

the extension of patent law to cover

simations.

and no one seems to have noticed.

ny-ante operations.

The first effect of this transforma-

sold in the marketplace.

within his powers When everything

Matic ....

WASHINGTON

e've got the

information

age .

wrong.

Someone

who reads

Foreign Affairs THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

The state of the s

# No Pain, No Gain, No Peace

I knew an Israeli colonel who had commanded Israeli troops in both south Lebanon and the West Bank, and I once asked him what was the difference between the two. Well, he said, on the West Bank, because of media and government scrutiny, "you have to explain every little move you make to 10 different people." But in south Lebanon, he said you could do whatever you wanted. Or as he put it: "In south Lebanon. there is nothing between you and God Almighty. The only question you ask yourself when you are going to blow up someone's house is whether to use 50 kilos of dynamite or 25 kilos."

I was reminded of that conversa tion when I read about the suicide bomber from Hezbollah, who two weeks ago killed an Israeli officer m south Lebanon. In south Lebanon, the Israeli Army has a completely free hand: it can kick in any door, burst into any Mosque. And yet, despite that freedom of operation - Israeli soldiers continue to die there, because they simply have no answer for suicide bombers. As one Israeli soldier involved in the latest incident explained when asked why he didn't shoot the Lebanese suicide bomber on sight: "We are not trained to shoot people in civilian clothes who are crossing the street."

I raise this point now because Israel's Likud Party leader, Bibi Netanyahu, and some of his tough-talking colleagues like Ariel Sharon, are peddling the argument that if elected they will know how to deal with Palestinian terrorism better than the Labor Government, Nonsense, Israel has not been able to eliminate 100 percent of terrorism-from Lebanon. where it has a totally free hand, and the Liked will do no better on the

Mr. Netanyahu is vague about his plan, but it seems to go like this: Militarily, be says, Israeli troops will

## Bibi's fantasy and in less the all SWELT and in the

go in, when necessary, and surgically wipe out Palestinian militants already living under Palestinian control. Politically, he says, Israel will freeze the peace process at its present stage and offer the Palestinians permanent autonomy on the West Bank - without the removal of a single Jewish settlement and without Mr. Netanyahu's ever having to meet Yasir Arafat.

stocks, driving up their market now-

भूग तह प्रमुख के स्तित्व हैं।

That approach is a fatuous illusion. But Mr. Netanyahu knows that Israel's silent majority wants there to be a peace process. He can't just say nothing. So he has come up with this fantasy peace process, for which there will never be any Palestinian

There is only one real peace process and it is the one launched by Yitzhak Rabin, based on Israel's gradually ceding Palestinians control over their own lives and land in return for Palestinians' providing Israel peace and security. It may well be that Mr. Arafat and the Palestinian people are not capable of living up to this deal. That is legitimately in question now. But if that is so, then the peace process is over, and Israe-

lis will have to man the barricades. I only hope that before Israelis grasp for the fantasy peace process offered by Mr. Netanyahu, or opt for the barricades, they will explore a third option - a better peace process, one that learns from the mistakes of the past year. That is a process that remains committed to the strategic goal of Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation and separation, but moves much more slowly, pays much more attention to Mr. Arafat's leadership weaknesses and seriously holds his feet to the fire oo compliance with every peace provision. But it is also a peace process that looks for more ways to help Mr. Arafat overcome his weaknesses, without undercutting his authority, and does more to help Palestinians create jobs

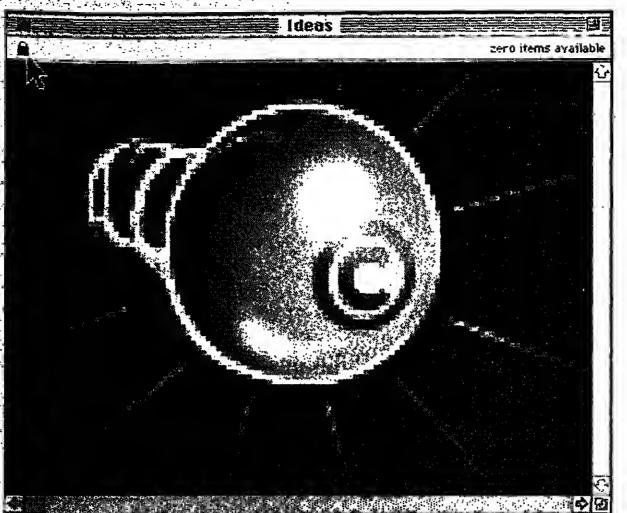
in Gaza and on the West Bank. Listening to the debate in Israel, you can hear that many people don't want to abandon the peace process, because that would mean a future full of yesterdays. But Israelis don't want to be played for fools either. I always believed the real strength of Israeli society has been its ability to survive. and even thrive, amid the violence of life m the Middle East and through all the ups and downs of the peace process. I hope it is that strength Israelis will reach for now - not the fantasy of peace without pain or the despair of no peace at all. This strength to endure was best captured after the latest spate of suicide bombings, when the Israeli Government canceled the Purim holiday celebrations in schools. An Israeli schoolboy asked on Israeli relevision: "Why did they can-

cel Purim? These suicide bombings

are going to happen, but Purim only

comes once a year."

their products; they fear it will help create an oligopolistic software mar-James Boyle, a professor of law at American University, is the author of "Shamans, Software and Spleens: Law and the Construction of the Information Society."



and the second section of the section of the second section sect

# Sold Out

ket and diminish inveotiveness. Gay rights activists, meanwhile, are told there can be no Gay Olympics because the United States Olympic Committee owns the word "Olympic" and won't permit its use. (After all, what could be more foreign to the traditions of ancient Greece than homosexuality?) Eovironmentalists wish that some of the profits on patented pharmaceuticals drawn from the rain forest could be returned to protect their source. Religious organizations protest the patenting of living organisms.

Each group is complaining about an intellectual property system that has expanded out of control. Yet they don't see those complaints, or their interests, as linked. Part of the problem is that we bave not adapted our public debate to the realities of the information age. Censorship we understand. But the subtler forms of control fmposed by ownership of informatioo? These are harder to discuss.

ongress is now considering the Clinton Administration's proposal for intellectual property on the Interoet, aimed at "saving" this thriving medium. Using a far-fetched theory of what constitutes "copying," the proposal would turn browsing an Interoet document into a copyright violation. It would effectively privatize much of the public domain by transforming the current law of fair use. It would make on-line service providers strictly liable for their customers' copyright violations, thus giving providers an incentive to monitor what you do in cyberspace.

These proposals are extraordinarily far-reaching. They have been criticized by educators, librarians, writers, civil libertarians and entrepreneurs, who fear that the Net will become a pay-as-you-go information toll road. And yet there is scarcely any coverage of these issues in the press. "Intellectual property" is presumed to be too dry, too technical, an issue, one mainly of interest to specialists.

The information land grab isn't confined to the Internet. In fields ranging from software to biography, biotechnology to court reporting, the general tendency of intellectual property rights bas been to grasp outward, ever outward. Some might say, Isn't this necessary? Information products are expensive to create, after all, and cheap to copy; that's why we need intellectual property rights, right?

But the issue isn't so simple. Imagine that you were the intellectual property czar, charged only with creating the most efficient, productive system of property rights. You don't care about free speech, artistic integrity or equal access. All you care about is economic efficiency. What would you

At first it might seem that you would just hand out copyrights and patents galore, and even expand the scope of such rights to give innovators a higher return on their investment. The greater their incentive, the more drugs, programs, data bases and gene maps they will develop, right? Not oecessarily.

though courts, economists and United States trade representatives often talk this way, the effect of intellectual property restrictions on innovation is not so clear-cut. Entrepreneurs have to be assured that time spent developing new software won't be wasted, that a profit lies at the end of the tunnel. But they also require an adequate amount of raw material; there bas to be an adequate flow of information for the market to This is true even in literature. "Po-

etry can only be made out of other poems; novels out of other novels," as the critic Northrop Frye famously put it. The same goes for computer programs, which build on the contributions of earlier backers, or for blotechoology projects, which rely on the availability of unpatented cell lines,

and so on and so on. Every intellectual property claim is a chunk taken out of the public domain. If classroom copying is sharply curtailed, if we give someooe a software patent over basic functions, at some point the public domain will be so diminished that future creators will be prevented from creating because they woo't be able to afford the raw materials they need. An intellectual property system has to insure that the fertile public domain is not converted into a fallow landscape of walled private plots. We are in danger of forgetting this.

Right now, the ground rules of the information society are being laid down by lawyers (strike one) employed by the biggest players in the field (strike two), all with little public debate or press scrutiny. This is bad politics in the thrall of worse ecocomics. We need a politics and a press of the information age. Access to dirty pictures will be little consolation, and speech anything but free, if we let this moment escape our

### Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

# Raffish and Rowdy

WASHINGTON

We're no angels. We are a noisy, imperfect lot struggling to scribble what has been called the first draft of history. The occupation has always had its hazards. As George Bernard Shaw wrote to a journalist: "Dear Sir, Your profession has, as usual, destroyed your brain."

But it is now so fashionable to bash the press that an entire bottom-feeding industry has grown up. There are a slew of books about making newspapers more civic-minded and a slew of ideologues and burnt-out journalists swanning about, calling themselves journalism experts and reformers.

When James Fallows is about to criticize someone in his book "Breaking the News: How the Media Undermine American Democracy," he tends to give them two nice adjectives. He describes me, for instance, as "tart and witty," before indicating that tart and witty descriptions of politicians' foibles are not the best way to help democracy.

I will return the favor. The slim and earnest Mr. Fallows starts from a false premise (the press used to be better), sets up fake choices (you can have stories on tactics or issues, personality or policy), and comes to an astonishing conclusion ("Instead of describing rivalries on the White House staff, the 'news' could treat the Presidency the way it does the scientific establishment, judging it mainly by public pronouncements and not looking too far behind the veil.")

The modern history of the Presidency - from the Bay of Pigs to the Gulf of Tonkin, from Watergate to Iran-cootra - illustrates why reporters must look behind the veil. But the veil is not especially democratic, and journalism is supposed to be the opposite of boosterism.

We don't need Mr. Fallows's version of "public journalism." If you want to appreciate the role of journalism in democracy, go to the Vietnam Memorial. I walk along the black wall, as it grows taller with names, and I think about how the men running the country sent so many young Americans to their deaths because they were driven by ego to insist on the veil, to lie and lie.

Mr. Fallows argues that Ira Magaziner and Hillary Clinton should have been allowed to develop their health care plan in secret. He suggests that The Times's "honest" and "diligent" Robert Pear impeded democracy by telling readers what the health care plan entailed.

But who decides what the public same thing.

needs to know? What makes the secret deliberations of government more democratic than the faucous probings of the press?

It is odd, to put it politely, to have Mr. Fallows righteously defending the veil. In 1979, he resigned his job as a speechwriter in the Carter White House and proceeded to make his reputation as a journalist by writing "The Passionless Presidency," a long attack on the personal failings of Jimmy Carter and their consequences for American politics.

Mr. Fallows's rhetoric was wild: "Like Marsha) Pétain after the fall of France, he has offered his person to the oation. This is not an inconsiderable gift; his performance in the office shows us why it's not enough."

The new scolding Fallows would probably find the old scalding Fallows "cynical." It is not "civil," after all, to look so far behind the veil or "constructive" to betray the President who hired you to help him communicate with the public.

Americans did not become more distillusioned because the press distorted the workings of government but because the press exposed the workings of government.

"Fallows offers a mistaken revisionism that there was a golden time

### In defense of a pesky press.

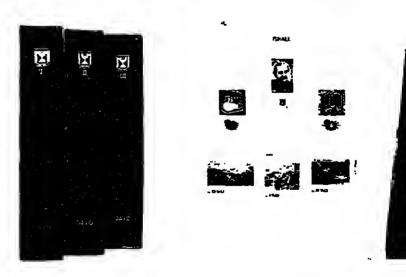
in which the press did a better job explaining government and policy and politics than it does now," says Michael Kelly of The New Yorker. 'The press does a better job and the public is hugely more informed about what's going on in Washington than It has ever been - and being hugely more informed does have a tendency to make one a little more cynical."

Mr. Fallows romanticizes the past, noting that in old movies "reporters were gritty characters, instinctively siding with the Common Man."

He should check out "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance." There is a scene when the crusty, crusading newspaper editor in the Old West Is asked to join a statehood committee. He explains that his job is not to help the pols, but to watch them to make sure they stay clean.

Democracy and civility are not the

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FILM

By JAMES STERNGOLD

HOLLYWOOO HORTLY before filming began on "Cutthroat Island," which quietly entered the record books as the biggest flop in Hollywood history after its release last December, a seemingly unrelated event set the pirate picture off on its race to selfdestruction.

It wasn't that the lead actor, Michaet Douglas, had suddenly quit, that the remaining star, Geena Davis, was struggling to pull out, that the producer. David Nichols, had left, that there was still no real script, or even that work had begun in Malta on one of the most expensive sets ever built, without clear instructions from the absent director, Renny Harlin.

The critical event, according to several people close to the debacte, occurred in the spring of 1994, when the studio making the movie, Carolco Pictures, decided to abandon its only other project, "Crusade," an action film starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, and take a painful \$13 million loss. In that instant, Carolco effectively decided that no matter what happened, it could not not make "Cutthroat Island." It was a tetting moment for Carolco's all-or-nothing survival strategy and a vivid illustration of the opaque financial reasoning that often puzzles moviegoers but makes perfect sense to movie makers.

Carolco was in deep trouble. Despite producing some of the biggest blockbusters of all time - up to then, its 23 films had earned, on average, a remarkable \$115 million each at the box office - years of profligacy and weak management had left the company with no options. On the day it abandoned "Crusade," Carolco was hanging on to life by the thin thread of its pirate picture.

"We knew that if we shut it down it was certain Chapter II." said one senior executive close to the company. "If we made the film, there was at least some chance we could survive. It was a classic case of going forward when you have no other choice.

From that point on Carolco no longer asked if it was feasible to produce the \$95 million swashbuckler without a real star, or whether to send hundreds of crew members to locations in Malta and Thailand without a solid script. The only question was how to push the film to the finish line - and, most important, how to get someone else to pay for most of the problems.

"They had to make this movie," Ms. Davis said in a telephone interview from Canada, where she is filming her next picture, another expensive action thriller directed by Mr. Harlin, her husband. 'The company was dead. Everyone knew that one way or another, this was their last movie."

result, Caroico, the red-meat studio that had defined the megabudget action genre and had churned out popular fare like the Rambo series in 1982 and "Terminator 2" and "Basic Instinct" in the early 90's. ended up in bankruptcy. "Cutthroat Island" had the dubious distinction of becoming the film industry's first \$100 million loser.

In hindsight, it may look as if a siring of inexplicably poor judgments caused the disaster. But the lesson behind "Cutthroat Island" is that in this world of smoke, mirrors and ketchup blood, not everything is what it seems, because no one involved seems to have suffered appreciably. How could so many seasoned pros produce such a bomb?

Interviews with dozens of people associated with every stage of the movie, most of whom would speak only anonymously because they still work with some of the key figures in "Cutthroat Island," have made it clear that from the start nearly evervone knew that they were working on what was potentially a colossal dud. But the truth was, going ahead with "Cutthroat Island" posed little real risk for Carolco Pictures or its top executives, especially its chairman, Mario F. Kassar, Mr. Kassar did not return repeated telephone calls seeking his comment.

As several people connected to the production explained, Mr. Kassar and other executives could have pulled in huge sums if "Cutthroat Island" had managed to find an audience. It was not a matter of seeing a catastrophe coming straight on, these people said, but of seeing a pot of gold if a few problems could be solved. Indeed, according to the terms of his employment contract. Mr. Kassar received a \$t million fee for seeing the movie to completion.

And Mr. Kassar and the other production executives who worked on "Cutthroai Island" afterward landed on their feet, with high-paying jobs elsewhere.

To a great extent the issues underlying the making of "Cutthroat Island" have a lot to do with how Hollywood finances films these days, and even more with who covers the rapidly escalating costs. The average cost last year for producing and marketing a movie was \$54 million. which means that financiers barely blink when those kinds of figures are

thrown around. Carolco played a critical role in pushing costs upward by paying top dollar for actors, special effects and seis. It could do so because it was a shrewd judge of not just what would sell in American theaters but what would sell overseas, the fastestgrowing sector of the movie market.

Though Carolco did not invent it, the studio perfected a financing method known as pre-selling. This is used largely by independent studios, but even some major studios have used it to help pay for expensive pictures. In pre-selling, overseas film distributors, principally in Europe and Japan, make up-front payments for advance rights to show the movie in their territories. The production company thus obtains capital and lowers its risks if the movie fails, but it also gives up some of the future profits if the film soars.

"Cutthroat Island" would not have been possible without substantial pre-selling. Carolco obtained more than \$50 million from its overseas distributors, for a film no one had seen. That money, along with the last of Carolco's cash, allowed the executives to push ahead with the movie despite the deep misgivings of many of those who worked on the film. The final tally was astounding.

The cost of producing, financing, marketing and distributing "Cutthroat Island" totaled nearly \$115 million. About \$18 million of that was put up by MGM/UA, the company that handled distribution and marketing. The result? The film, which

starred Ms. Davis and Matthew Modine, a last-minute stand-in for Mr. Douglas, earned less than \$10 million at the box office and was pulled from

## Things only got worse for 'Cutthroat Island.'

theaters after a few weeks. The rapid death was a double calamity because it all but eliminated the chaoce of big sales overseas. The foreign distributors lost nearly all of their \$50 million.

According to Exhibitor Relations. which tracks movie profits, the roughly \$100 million loss is a record, and although the film will be released on video on April 16, there is virtually no chance Carolco or its creditors can recoup their heavy

Carolco itself lost about \$47 million on the movie, most of that borne by the company's bondholders, and it filed for bankruptcy on Nov. 10, about six weeks before "Cutthroat Island" reached theaters. A movie company whose two dozen often violent, brawny action films earned \$2.66 billion in 13 years had managed to run up more than \$500 million in losses. This was due in part to Carolco's having shared too large a portion of its revenues with foreign distributors, and partly becaue of its lavish spending

To put "Culthroat Island" in perspective, the movie previously celebrated as one of the most oversized losers was Michael Cimino's 1980 film "Heaven's Gate," It ultimately forced United Artists to take a then staggering \$44 million write-off. But that film was the product of a director's obsessive vision. "Cutthroat Island" was largely the product of a financial imperative.

"You can't get more dead than dead" is how one person intimately involved in the movie explained the thinking. "Carolco was financially dead, so it couldn't get any worse. They had nothing to lose."

We hear the sound of a fiddle ploving FADE IN:

EXTERIOR. OCEAN - DAY "A beoutiful smoll sugorloaf island sits like a jewel in the blue. A golleon, THE ROSE, flying the skull ond crossbones, rides anchor in its

MALE VOICE (OFF STAGE): 'Come on, Harry, you don't want to die. Where's your piece of the map?"

Those are the directions and opening lines of the script that gave "Cutthroat Island" its bright initial promise. It was 1993, and Carolco, though ailing financially, had negotiated a deal giving it a new lease on life with \$112 million in fresh capital. Carolco had lost \$353 million in 1991 and 1992. But its biggest shareholders believed that it still had a chance

to make its "event" movies pay off. The new money was put up by the Pioneer Electronic Corporation of Japan, Canal Plus of France, Rizzoli ditore of Italy and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, which is controlled by Crédit

yonnais, the French bank. For several years Carolco had been interested in "Cutthroat Island,", and Mr. Kassar, the chairman, had persuaded Mr. Douglas to look at the script. Mr. Douglas had two well-known scriptwriters, Bruce A. Evans and Raynold Gideon, rework it. They produced the version that opened with the fiddle music and a grizzled pirate, Black Harry

Adams, ready to walk the plank. Mr. Douglas was to star as William Shaw, an occasionally burnbling con artist whose modest knowledge of Latin helps Morgan Adams. Black Harry's daughter, track down the treasure while under pursuit by her murderous uncle, Dawg Brown (Frank Langella). Ms. Davis played Morgan Adams.

That script won a commitment from Mr. Douglas to play the lead, a big break for Carolco and "Cutthroat Island." The fact that he would receive \$13 million for the part was unimportant, for in Mr. Douglas they had snared one of Hollywood's most bankable stars.

The models for the film were the Indiana Jones series, which combined breathless action and campy humor, and "Romancing the Stone a Michael Douglas action film that had the added spice of ao attractive female lead, Kathleen Turner. No matter that pirate films had proved disappointing in recent years; witness Steven Spielberg's "Hook" and Roman Polanski's "Pirates."

Douglas recalled in an interview, "for a sort of positive change away from the dark films I'd been doing. Carolco had also signed up a director with a track record: Mr. Harlin. Most recently, he had made the successful "Cliffhanger" for Carolco and was regarded as adept with the kind of action sequences that sell

"I was looking for a romp," Mr.

well in foreign markets. Mr. Harlin, born in Finland, had directed pictures like "Nightmare on Elm Street IV: The Dream Masters" and "Die Hard 2." And, in September 1993, Mr. Harlin had married Ms. Davis. Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kassar and Mr. Harlin had agreed oo her as the female lead. Mr. Harlin and Ms. Davis would each be paid \$5.5 million.

Like Mr. Douglas, Ms. Davis hoped that the film would lead her in a new direction. She had won an Academy Award for her portrayal of a quirky dog trainer in the 1988 film 'The Accidental Tourist." But despite the success in 1991 of "Thelma and Louise," another film, "Angie" did poorly after its release in early 1994. Ms. Davis said she was looking for a strong, higher-profile charac-

In fact, she had fought to get the lead role in another pirate film, "Mistress of the Sea," being developed by Columbia Pictures. But the film's budget had mushroomed to at least \$70 million. Columbia dropped the idea, but Ms. Davis did not.

Ms. Davis said the female lead in "Cutthroat Island," Morgan Adams, was not very interesting in the initial script, but she was persuaded to take it on because of the presence of Mr. Douglas. That is where some of the early problems began.

The movie would include spectacular chase scenes, brawls and sea battles in an ocean setting meant to evoke the Caribbean in the 17th century. The filming was to be done in Malta, which has a big artificial lake, known as a tank, where seaborne films are often shot, and in Thailand, with its azure waters.

But the writers had to create a script with both a strong male lead and a strong female role. Despite numerous rewrites, it was proving impossible to satisfy both stars, according to people who worked on the production. And Ms. Davis's part was expanding relative to Mr. Douglas's. Even as a huge crew was being assembled in the spring of 1994, in Malta, Mr. Douglas was troubled by the growing imbalance between the lead characters. He felt that he was being upstaged by Ms. Davis and that he was unable to turn to the director for support because Mr. Harlin was her husband.

In July, the worst happened: Mr. Douglas pulled out.

"They had a hard time searching for who Shaw was," he explained. "I just was not comfortable with the part. The combination of not seeing It on the page and not knowing where it would go. I was feeling uncomfortable, and I wanted out."

He added: "I said to Renny: 'Renny, you're married to the leading lady. Don't you think you have to do something to make me comfortable with this?' He agreed. There had to be something there.

"Ultimately, comes one day, and the director says. I'm happy with the direction the script is going.' And I said: 'God bless you. I'm not.' "

One executive who concurred with this version of events said: "We spent money like crazy, and it was being rewritten like crazy. But it was becoming Renny's film for Geena. Michael got upset when he realized what was happening. But I don't fault him. It was an impossible situation." Mr. Harlin declined to com-

Ms. Davis insisted she was and remained friendly with Mr. Douglas and that talk of upstaging him was nonsense. But she agreed with a frequently expressed view that the

movie should have been stopped. "I, of course, assumed the whole project would be canceled," Ms. Davis said. "It was all based on Michael Douglas's being in it. To my horror, t learned not only would they not cancel but that I had a legal obligation to go ahead, unlike Michael, I tried

desperately to get out of this movie."

She added: "The ludicrous thing was that the only reason I was there was because of Michael. I never wanted to carry this movie.

Now she was on her own. No other well-known male star would touch the role. A frantic search for a replacement brought hasty rejections Irom actors like Liam Neeson, Raiph Fiennes and Keanu Reeves, according to people close to the production. Finally, Matthew Modine, an actor with a talent for offbeat or demanding parts but not a recognized star, brought in to play Shaw.



Matthew Modine and Geena Davis in "Cutthroat Island"—The film made hardly a ripple at the box office.

"Let's be serious," said one production official who was on the set. 'Everyone wanted off this picture when Michael Douglas fell out."

It was July 1994, and other serious problems were cropping up. Friction between Mr. Harlin and the producer, Mr. Nichols, contributed to Mr. Nichols's hasty departure, just before shooting, according to others working on the film. Mr. Nichols himself declined to comment. His replacement was Joel B. Michaels, who had recently had success with "Stargate." Mr. Michaels, for his part, said he thought the worries over Mr. Harlin's relationship with Ms. Davis and how the script was changing were overblown.

"Naturally, anyone with good sense would have been concerned about a situation where the director was married to the star of the film," said Mr. Michaels. "That's a pretty strong unioo to be dealing with. But I can't compliment Renny and Geena enough over how professional they

The casting crisis delayed Mr. Harlin's departure for Malta. About 1,000 feet of buildings along the quay in Malta had 10 have new facades erected. So it was done without him, at enormous cost, and with the risk that he would alter things when he showed up, which he did.

Morale on the set was low because of Mr. Harlin's absence. Signs were posted, reading, "If we build it, he will come." To cheer up the crew,

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51 Düsseldorf dog

57 "Brave Men" author, 113 1909 Physics

23 Boardwalk

purchases

Mr. Harlin sent a note laying out his thoughts on "Cutthroat Island":

"You all know what we are going : through in regard to a male star. Simultaneously several departmeots seem to be having budgetary problems and the final shooting script is not yet ready." He then exhorted the crew: "When the casting concerns have

been resolved and I arrive in Malta, I want to see the most spectacular and eye-popping sets, the most interesting and unusual props, and especially weapons and special effects that leave the audience gasping in awe and stunts that no one thought possible before. No sequence or setting that you've seen in movies before is good enough. Any idea that has been previously used has to be reinvented and cranked up 10 times."

Mr. Harlin showed up in August, about six weeks before filming was to begin. But problems persisted, all of them adding to the cost, which had shot up to \$80 million from an initial estimate of \$65 million.

"Some of the problems seemed disproportionate compared to other movies, but that was just by virtue of the fact that the movie was hig," Mr. Michaels sald, Mr. Harlin was also cooperating fully on the need to rein in costs. Some scenes were cut, others adjusted to make them less costly. "I can't imagine anybody working harder to accomplish the objective than Renny," Mr. Michaels said

But costs kept rising once the Crew was flown from Malta to Phuket. Thailand, in early 1995 aboard a chartered jet. People were brought in from around the world - stunt men from Poland, carpenters from Italy and England. More than 2,000 costumes, 309 firearms, 620 swords, 250 daggers and 60 or 70 axes were custom-made.

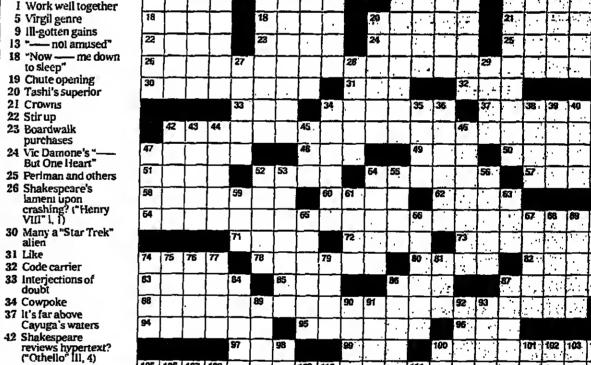
in Thailand, most of the production was filmed on the ocean, an unusually expensive undertaking. The cost of "Waterworld" had shot up to close to \$200 million; a record. in large measure because it was filmed on the ocean. But "Waterworld" has earned back most of that, with a total of \$255 million in domestic and international sales, according to Exhibitor Relations.

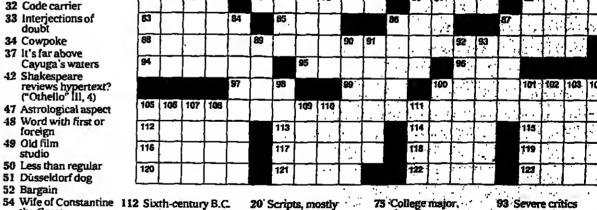
For all the effort to coordinate this massive production and create breathtaking action sequences, the story was weak, many critics later complained and the dialogue was wooden, because the script was constantly being reworked. In the final version, for example, as Morgan Adams was about to blow Dawg Adams . apart with a cannon, she exclaimed, "Bad Dawg!"

The wrap party was held in Thailand on April Fools' Day, 1995. Neither Mr. Harlin nor Ms. Davis was there, but they left the remaining crew with gifts - orange leather backpacks sporting the "Cutthroat Island" logo

### SHAKESPEARE ON-LINE

BY JAMES SAVAGE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ-





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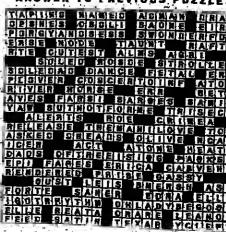
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# Sexual pioneer with a dark side

F the start of this century's rev-olution in sexual annudes could be pinned on one person, it would be Marie Stopes, founder of the British Empire's first birth-control clinic.

Stopes was a sexual pioneer in the 1920s in a world still bound by the rigid mores of the Victorian

The opening of the clinic just over 75 years ago was radical enough, hut it paled beside the influence of Stopes's book Married Love, published in 1918, which preached the unheard-of notion that women should enjoy sex.

But the humanitarian who vowed to bring sexual fulfillment to the masses had a dark side. Stopes was also an advocate of eugenics - the selective breeding of humans - and treated her own husband with astonishing emotional brutality.

Stopes has been credited with transforming the sex lives of millions. To an ignorant male-domi-nated world, where women were expected to merely endure sex. Stopes introduced foreplay and declared that a mutually satisfying sex life was the key to the perfect

Married Love was a huge suc-cess. It was translated into 14 languages and sold over a million copies. In 1935, a group of American academics ranked it one of the most influential works of the previous 50 years, ahead of

Einstein's Theory of Relativity.
"We could arguably lay much of the hlame for our over-optimistic expectations of marriage squarely on her shoulders," wrote a reviewer of a recent hiography of

What was most astonishing about Murried Love was that, at 37. Stopes was a virgin when she wrote

In a rare legal case. Stopes had had her first marriage annulled in 1916 because it had proved sexually unfulfilling and was never con-

This was clearly a woman who was not going to put up with an unsatisfactory sex life, but it was also an early hint of the sheer, overriding force of her personality.

Stopes was married for a second time in 1918 to Humphrey Verdon-Roe, an aeronautical pioneer whose wealth freed her to devote her time to writing and carrying on her mis-

But white preaching marital bliss, Stopes herself was a cruel and domineering wife.

She forced Roe to write, at her dictation, a letter freeing her from sexual fidelity because he was unable to satisfy her.

Eventually Roe was banished to the attic of the 18th-century mansion they shared and had to earn permission to visit family rooms by doing household chores.

The couple's son born when Stopes was 44, was equally dominated, although adored, by his mother, who was growing odder as sbe aged.

Harry Stopes-Roe was forced to wear either kilts or woolen trousers as a child because his mother was convinced anything else would damage his genitals.

When Harry finally rebelled and chose a bride for himself, his mother objected furiously that his fiancée wore glasses and that the purity of her descendants could be damaged by this tiny imperfec-

She wrote her son out of her will and when she died in 1958, the mansion was left to the Royal Society of Literature and Harry received the 13-volume Greater

Oxford Dictionary. Stopes's opposition to the marriage may have been partly rooted in possessiveness, but it was also a potent display of her eugenic conrictions.

She believed the human race was in decline and that only selective breeding among perfect individuals - like herself - could save it. She urged the sterilization of



Maria Stopes, founder of the British Empire's first birthcontrol clinic, was also an advocate of eugenics.

mothers with physical or mental disabilities and described her birthcontrol ctinic as "a sure light in our

When a deaf-mute man wrote to her for advice on birth control, she rebuked him for even contemplating sex and then wrote to a charity declaring that people with such disabilities should not be allowed to

Recent critics have said she was also a supporter of Hitler, because she sent him a volume of her poems, Love Soilgs for Young

Her son has dismissed the idea. "It was a perversion to suggest she admired Hitler. She was anti-Nazi. Sending the poems was an example of her 'megalomania,' said Stones-Roe.

By the beginning of World War II, Stopes had given up proselytiz-ing and turned her attention to writing poetry and literature.

She was disgusted that she was remembered solely as a birth-control pioneer.

She was sick to death of us all. She had taught the man in the street to heave overboard the prurience and taboos of centuries so that he could soar up to the ultimate fulfdlment of bliss - and what had he done? The oaf had used her gift like an extra gadget in the lavatory,"

# From one Jew to 2,000

EFORE World War II, the University of Southern California had a numerus clausus, or quota, system for its professional schools, striking in its simplicity.

One Jewish student was admitted to the medical school, one to the dental school and one to the law school.

Those statistics have changed, as Dr. Steven B. Sample, president of the private institution, told Jewish community leaders he hosted at a recent luncheon. Currently, the Jewish presence on campus encompasses 2,000 to 2,500 students, or 8-10 percent of the total enrollment, and one-third of all deans and profes-

Perhaps not coincidentally, the academic standing of USC - once known mainly for its athletic prowess - has risen sharply in the last few decades.

The Jewish contributions have been immense," said Sample at a campus luncheon, "Our ties to the Jewish community are as strong as those of any other American univer-Founded by the Methodist Church in 1880 and long considered a WASP bastion inhospitable to minorities, the USC turnaround has been startling. As recently as the 1970s, USC elicited bowls of protest from the Jewisb community when it announced the establishment of a Middle East Studies Center, funded entirely by Arab nil money.

The center, delicately described by Sample as "a misstep," was stillborn and the money returned to its donors.

The transformation of USC can be credited to a number of factors.

USC, once a bastion of the WASP establishment, has come a long way from the days of its antisemitic quotas, **Tom Tugend** reports from Los Angeles

One is the change in American society from the pre-World War II era, when job listings in the Los Angeles Times routinely carried the proviso, "Only whites and Christians need apply." Another is the advent of a more enlightened leadership at USC, which was also mindful that its Jewish alumni tended to be unusually successful and generous to their

Not least is the work of Joseph Roos, who was hired 15 years ago as a community relations consultant by the university.

The 87-year-old Roos, a legendary pioneer in battling antisemitism and hate groups, was bonored at the luncheon for his "tireless dedication in fighting injustice and as a model for service to the community."

AMONG USC's current programs and rela-

tionships, noted Sample, are a Jewish studies curriculum attracting 500 undergraduates, including many non-Jews; active academic exchanges and joint studies with the neighboring Hebrew Union College, a relationship Sample hopes to extend to HUC's new Skirball Cultural Center, and ties to the Hehrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv

University. Sample is working toward the establishment of a Jewish studies center and fundraising is under way for an endowed chair in Jewish

Cinema-school senior Joey Nusshaum cited his own career at USC as a good example of how things look from the students' perspec-

It started when, as a lonely freshman. Nussbaum was invited by campus Hillel direcfor Rabbi Susan Laemmle to an Erev Shabhat celebration, and he was on his way.

Now president of the USC Jewish Student Union, Nusshaum worked with Hillel, fellow students and faculty to found or strengthen an annual Jewish awareness week, a Jewish filmmakers forum, the residential Bayit and SChalom housing, both with kosher kitchens, Rosh Hodesh celebrations for women, and joint dialogue groups with Arah and black stu-

Also available are a study program in Israel, a joint USC-HUC degree in religion, Hillel activities and lectures and symposia on Jewisb

Whatever I needed Jewishly," the graduating Nussbaum said, "it was there."

HE US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) bas acknowledged the harmful effects of dioxin, a chemical released mainly hy paper

mills and incinerators. According to a preliminary report, "low doses of dioxin can cause cancer and infertility, and even interfere with fetal development, even at the background levels that most people have in their

The final results of the fouryear study will he published later

It is the hleaching of paper products that produces so much dioxin, contaminating air and water

D'VORA BEN SHAUL sources and the subsequent incineration of paper products that pol-

lutes the air, say the experts. For this reason, many people are pressing for more unbleached paper products in everything from sanitary supplies and disposable diapers to coffee filters.

Dioxin bas been suspect for a number of years. It now appears that in order to cause harm the dioxin must bind with a number of receptors called Ah receptors on cells. Just why this bonding happens in some people and not in

others is not understood, hut some

scientists say that this may mean that there is no level of dioxin low enough to protect some people from its effects.

In the meantime, the industries involved have mounted a massive campaign to try and show that dioxin is harmless and that the entire issue is a by-product of what they term "ecosteria" or, on other words, ecological hysteria.

They have found new friends in the Congress. After the last US congressional elections, a Republican-controlled Congress known for strong anti-environ-

mental stands — canceled the appearance of a researcher sympathetic to environmentalists.

Instead, the Congress invited Michael Gough, a conservative think-tank member from the Cato Institute, and Kay Jones of Zephyr Consulting in Seattle. Both are known for their criticism of the EPA report and their support of industry. Both have worked extensively for industries that produce

The EPA plans to release its full report later this year. According to Linda Birnbaum, one of its authors, there will be more detail about research, but the conclusions will remain the same.

## **Inadmissible evidence only counts** when it makes a difference

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Criminal Appeals. before justices Dov Levin, Gavriel Bach. Eliyahu Maza Mishael Cheshin, and Yitzhak Zamir, in the matter of the State of Israel, appellant, versus Yoram Abutbul, respondent (F.H.[C] 188/94).

BUTBUL was convicted in the Tel Aviv District Court of rape and other offenses. He appealed to the Supreme Court on the grounds that the inadmissible evidence of a polygraph test undergone by the complainant had been wrongly admined at his trial and could have influenced the result. The court, by majority decision, allowed the appeal (The Jerusalem Post, January 10, 1994) and the court president acceded to the state's request to order a

rehearing.
Justice Zamir analyzed section 56 of the Evidence Ordinance (New Version) of 1971. It provides that no judgment in a criminal trial shall be based on inadmissible evidence admitted by error or inadverience; nevertheless, the judgment shall not be invalidated by an appeal court "unless, in the opinion of the court, the accused would not have been convicted if such evidence had not been given, or there was no other sufficient evidence to support conviction."

Justice Zamir was satisfied that the trial court did not take the inadmissible evidence into account and that there was ample other evidence to support the conviction. He proposed, therefore, that the appeal court's first judgment be set aside, that Abutbul's conviction be confirmed, and that the Supreme Court pass sentence afresh after hearing counsels' sub-

Justice Cheshin adhered to his original opinion that Abutbul's appeal be dismissed. He agreed with the presumption that the trial judge disregarded inadmissible evidence. He differed from Justice Zamir as to remitting the case to the lower court being the most desirable course.

**ASHER FELIX LANDAU** 

JUSTICE BACH also adhered to his previous opinion. He agreed with Justice Zamir that any reasonable doubt as to the judge's having been influenced by the inadmissible evidence worked in the defendant's favor. In the present case, however, there was no place for a reasonable doubt.

His finding on this aspect was not based only on the judge having mentioned the polygraph test in his judgment. He referred to it twice, in different passages, without commenting that it was inadmissible and that he had disregarded it. Moreover, the judge stated the complainant had apparently undergone the test successfully, the defendant had tried to minimize its importance, and his counsel had vigorously opposed it. Referring to all these features in his judgment surely raised at least a reasonable doubt as to whether he did not rely on this evidence, particularly in view of the sharp conflict of evidence between the

complainant and the defendant. It was important, in his opinion. to direct judges that if they referred to inadmissible evidence, they should clarify that they disregarded it in reaching their conclusions.

JUSTICE LEVIN concurred with Justice Bach. The trial court, he said, had no need to refer to the polygraph evidence in its judgment. That it did so raised at least a doubt whether its purpose was not to strengthen and explain why it preferred the complainant's version to the defendant's.

Moreover, the whole occurrence was strange and the evidence of both the complainant and the defendant was full of contradictions and surprising allegations. The objective evidence too was insufficient to dispel doubts as to the defendant's guilt.

JUSTICE MAZZA accepted Justice Zamir's legal analysis of

the principles involved. He also accepted the presumption that the trial court was not influenced by the inadmissible evidence, noting that the strength of that presumption depends on the circumstances of each particular case. He also commented there was no conflict between the members of the court as to the principles involved. He also held that where there

was no other sufficient evidence to support conviction, and there was at least a reasonable doubt as to whether the trial court had been influenced by the inadmissible evidence, the defendant was entitled to be acquitted. On the other hand, less than a reasonable doubt on that point would not justify

invalidating the judgment. He agreed with Justice Bach that judges should be directed to make it clear that if they referred to inadmissible evidence, they did not rely on it in any way.

Despite the judge's mendoning the complainant's polygraph test, Justice Mazza continued, he was satisfied the judge had nm relied upon it in convicting Abuthul.A close reading of the admissible evidence and the judgment showed clearly that the judge believed the complainant and disbelieved the defendant.

Although the complainant's evidence contained some surprising passages, it was clearly, on the face of it far more convincing than the defendant's evasive testimony. In his opinion, therefore. there was no justification for the appeal court's invalidating the trial court's judgment.

IN THE result and by majority decision, the District Court's judgment was restored as decided by Justice Zamir.

Yiska Leibowitz, former senior assistant state attorney, appeared for the state, and Prof. Kenneth Mann and Shimon Shover appeared for Abutbul. The judgment was given on February 28, 1996.

This is the second of two parts.

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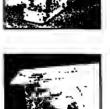
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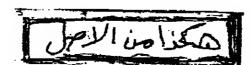
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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

# Leading indicators up sharply

THE Bank of Israel's index of leading indicators rose 0.9 percent in February, reflecting a sharp rise in retail commerce, the central bank said vesterday.

The index of leading indicators

integrates statistics on industrial production, retail commerce, imports, and business-sector wages, and provides a barometer nf consumption trends.

The bank attributed the steepest rise in the past 10 months to increased import expansion and "a sharp rise" in retail commerce.

While retail commerce expanded 5.2% in February, and by 13% over the preceding six months, the industrial production index declined by 1.1%, and remained unchanged during the six months up to February in comparison with the corresponding period in

the previous year.
The Bank of Israel will today present its annual report. The reports will be issued under the unusually sensitive circumstances nf elections next month, Governor Jacob Frenkel's term expiring in July, and the economy's macroeconomic perfnrmance becoming an increasing concern due to the expanding trade, budget, and current-

# Osem Inv. posts 16% rise in net profits

OSEM Investments completed the year with a 16.3 percent real growth in net profits in NIS 67.39 million from N1S 57.96m. in

Management emphasized that the company echieved a rise in profits despite the merger of affil-iated companies, which suffered losses because of the introduction of a new distribution network.

The increase in earnings was primarily due in a sharp grawth in financing income to NIS 10.14m. from NIS 663,000.

The rise represented an increase in the company's securities portfulin.

Sales turnover increased 17% tn NIS 1.1 billion from NIS 945.8m. The real growth in sales reflects an increase in sale of its traditional products, entrance into the frozen food sector following the

purchase of Mili and Tivall, and the establishment of a marketing and distribution network. Local market sales increased

15.2% to NIS 1b. Sales to the overseas market rose 38.2% to NIS 102.3b. Since the start of the year, Osem

has signed several agreements in an attempt to increase its activities in the Far East. The company has reached e

partnership agreement with Dabur India to establish a food manufacturing company in India at a total investment of \$3m. Osem will have a 40% stake in the company and directly invest \$600,000.

In China, Osem has established a snack producing company in partnership with the BAIC group. company, according to the agree-ment will invest \$2.7m. in the company's capital and guaran-

On the local market, Osem has signed an agreement with Paz to establish a chain of shops at Paz gas stations. The two companies will have an equal share in the

company.

Fibi Holdings, the parent company of First International Bank, yesterday reported a 6.5% drop in net profits to NIS 74.2m. from NIS 79.4m. in 1994.

Net return nn equity on an annual basis fell in 8.8% from 9.8%.

First International Bank's contribution to total earnings was NIS 67.3m., while Dikla mutual fund management company contributed NIS 6.7m.

## Monday, April 1, 1996 **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

Service center opens at Erez checkpoint: A service center to check items coming from Gaza and to answer questions Palestinian merchants may have regarding exports to Israel will open today at the

Erez checkpoint.

Avi Gamvish, spokesman for the governmental coordinating body

Avi Gamvish, spokesman for the governmental coordinating body

that will run the center, said the establishment will ease the economic difficulties caused by the continued closure. The center will be manned by representatives of the Agriculture, Industry, and Internal Security ministries. All goods will be thoroughly checked before being sent into Israel. being sent into Israel.

Jordanian airline to fly to Israel: Royal Wings, a subsidiary of Royal Jordanian Airlines, is to begin flights between Ben-Gurion Airport and Amman on Sunday. There will be five weekly flights in a Dash-7 on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and

The fare is to be \$70 one-way and \$120 round-trip. Some of the add-on fares, according to Galilee Tours, which represents Royal Jordanian in Israel, are: Bangkok, \$650; Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, or Singapore, \$690; Karachi, \$475; and New Delki, \$575.

Gulf Investment's '95 net profit up 86%: Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC), owned equally by six Gulf Arab states, has reported an 86.3 percent rise in calendar 1995 net profit to \$115.9 million. Kuwait-based GIC said in a statement issued after a general assembly meeting it would distribute a dividend of \$52.5m. in 1995. In 1994 it distributed \$37.5m.

Reuter

# Sales at kibbutz industries grow at double the national rate

Kibbutzim report 16% increase to NIS 9.5 billion

SALES at the kibbutz industries' 400 enmpanies increased 16 percent last year in NIS 9.5 billinn, compared in an 8% national industrial average real growth Kibbutz Industries Association chairman Micha Hertz said vesterday while pre-

senting the group's annual perfnr-Hertz, who would not disclose figures concerning profits/losses, used the opportunity to attack the Bank of Israel's high interest-rate policy, which he said is barming the kibbutz industries, which are dominated by plastics and rubber,

food and metals. The kibbutz industries' exports rose 26.6% last year to \$1.04 billion from SS21b., compared in a **GALIT LIPKIS BECK** 

national average real growth rate

Eighty percent of the kibbutz industries' export growth was in the three leading branches.

The kibbutz industries exported 35% of their production, compared in a national average of about 25% of sales.

Hertz attributed the improvemeot tn a rise in raw materials, especially plastics, and a growth in demand - particularly in infra-

Commenting on the kibbutz debt arrangement plan, Hertz said the delay in the signing of the arrangement has discouraged potential investors from investing

in the kibbutz sector. Hertz said Bank of Israel

Governor Jacob Frenkel's interest rate policy is wrong, particularly with regard to his policy nn the exchange rate. Frenkel, he said, keeps refer-

ring to the rise in exports, but last year their growth was lower than in the previous year, and in 1996 it is expected to be even smaller. "Exports bave turned into the Bank of Israel's punching bag,"

he said. "Things can't remain this way. There will be a significant drop in exports if the fnreign currency

rate is not changed." According to Hertz, the nearly

frozen exchange rate reduced industrial firms' total profits by at least five percent last year. He emphasized that the kibbutz secthr was one of the worse hit, because of its high export prienta-

The Kibbutz Industries Association called on the Bank nf Israel to adjust the foreign currency rate upward to reach the diagonal band.

The Bank of Israel's policy is worrying in light of the trade balance, said Hertz.

Commenting on the inflation rate. Hertz said Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur should receive credit for the lowering nf the rate, as opposed to Frenket, who attributes its decline to his mooetary policy.

It is impossible to fight inflation using interest rates as the sole tool, said Hertz.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



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### capital gains following issue of subsidiary's shares **GALIT LIPKIS BECK** The issued shares are traded on

TADIRAN has registered capital gains of \$35 million following the issue of 20 percent of subsidiary Tadiran Telecommunications Tadiran shares through a global offering in the US, Europe and Asia at the end of last week.

The company raised \$75m. from the issue of five million shares. The shares were issued according to a company valuation

of \$385m. The shares were sold for \$15 per share. Management said the proceeds nf the sale will be used to expand

the company's activities.

the Nasdaq market in the US and The underwriters of the issue, on the Automated Quotation headed by Lehman Brothers, have International Stock Exchange in an option to purchase an addition-

London. Tadiran's decision to issue Tadiran Telecommunications was within 30 days. Assuming the underwriters exercise their option, Tadiran will raise an additional in the framework of the company's policy to raise capital and encourage foreign investors to invest in its subsidiaries. Capital market sources said the offering was very successful in light of the recent weakness of

Next in line, Tadiran management plan to find a strategic part-ner for the Communications Systems company and also a part-ner for its batteries division.

## Postal banks ready for expanded service

Israeli stocks traded in New York.

Following the sale, Tadiran shares jumped 5%.

al 750 shares at the issue price.

Tadiran registers \$35m. in

.COMMUNICATIONS\_Minister Shulamit Alini yesterday instructed Postal Authority director-general Ran Levin to get the Postal Bank ready to provide expanded services.

The 700 postal banks located in postal branches and mobile post offices around the country will thus be able to provide many services when the commercial banks close down on Friday.

Levin and Postal Bank director Baruch Tepper said that now after Alnni and Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles gave their approval - they would ready the postal banks for such services.

cial and banking services linked on-line to the commercial banks. Additional postal bank branches will be put on line with the

puter will be linked in the commercial banks, just as the

108.08 107.42

Transport Ministry computer has already been booked up to the postal branches to facilitate vehicie ownership transfers.

Tappen, said, the Bostal Bank does not sum to compate, with the commercial banks, but the smaller banks will boost access to the public through the postal bank without investing in buildings.

## Patch (foreign currency deposit rates) (29.3.96) 6 MONTHS 4,500 4,250 1,750 0,375 an mark 80% 200,000 Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (29.3.96)

SHAEL MONEY WARKER

Hittp://
Rating//
3.5089
3.1110
2.1085
4.7468
0.6179
2.8230
1.8839
2.6149
0.4875
0.4853
0.5463
0.5709
2.2816
2.4235
0.7771
1.0258
2.9816
4.4854
0.9800
0.9101
4.5336
2.5048 205 4.62 0.80 2.84 1.83 0.45 0.63 0.63 0.69 1.00 2.93 4.30 0.88

# **National** Insurance Institute



# **Social Insurance Agreement Between Israel and Denmark**

As of today, April 1, 1996, the social insurance agreement between Israel and Denmark goes in effect.

Under the terms of the agreement, anyone sent from Israel by an employer to work in Denmark will be exempt from paying a double insurance fee. This reciprocity will also extend to old age pensions, survivors pensions, general disability benefits. employment injury benefits, and mothers' and children's allowances.

All those interested in submitting claims for insurance benefits within the framework of this agreement may send an application in writing to the National insurance Institute. Main Branch, Liaison Office for International Conventions, 13 Weizmann Blvd., Jerusalem 91909. . .

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that it is considering to sell all the shares held by the State of Israel (hereinafter: "the State Shares") in:

"Naphta Israel Oil Petroleum Corp. Ltd." (hereinafter: "Naphta")

Shares constituting approximately 21.23% of the Issued capital of Naphta.

Sheres remaining (should the said share or part of them continue to remain) in the hands of the State of lerael after November 1, 1996 (being the last day for the conversion of the convertible bonds issued against the said shares), from the chares constituting as of 17.3.96 approximately 22.88% of the issued capital of Naphta.

Parties (other than "Governmental Corporations" as euch term is defined in the below-mentioned Sale Procedure) interested in purchasing all the State Shares, shall be entitled to apply to the Government of Israel through the Government Companies Authority (hereinafter: "the Authority") as The necessary application forms and documents, including the Procedure for Sale of the State

Shares (above and hereinafter: "the Sale Procedure"), may be purchased - for a sum of NIS 5,000 (which shall not be refunded), payable by a banker's cheque - from Mesers. Ilan Avrahami and Natan Treitel, Government Companies Authority, Ministry of Finance, 1 Kaplan St., 7th finnr, Room 721, Jerusalem; Tel. 02-317567, Fax. 02-611680. Pursuant to the conditions set forth in the Sale Procedure, the final date for submitting applications is

16:00, Sunday, April 21, 1996. The Authority may, by way of public annuncement, extend the date of the deadline for submission of applications, as well as change other dates and terms in the Sale Procedure, at its sale and absolute discreting. In order to participate in the sale, the applicants will be required to demonstrate economic and

financial resources as specified in the Sale Procedure. The State shall be entitled, at its sole and absolute diecretinn, to select from among the applicants, the candidates who best eatisfy the requirements that the State shall set in the sale procedure. These candidates shall continue to perticipate in the eale and shall be invited to invard an offer to ourchase the State Shares, if and when the State shall decide to sell the said State Shares.

The sale of the State Shares is exempt from the obligation to hold e tender, under the "Obligation of Tenders Regulatione - 1993" and will be implemented as an open competition between bidders. In order to remove any doubt, it is hereby clarified that this advertisement does not constitute an invitation to the general public to purchase the State Shares, nor an offer or undertaking on the part of the State of Israel to sell the State Shares. The purchaser of the State Shares shall be determined on the basis of Inquiries and possibly on the basis of negotiatinne which the State may, at its eole and

absolute discretion, conduct with any party, if it shall decide to proceed with said sale. The sale of the

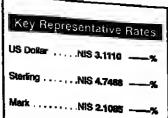
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# Gold futures close lower

## **COMMODITIES** ROUNDUP

COMEX gold futures came under pressure on Thursday, caused by a drop in petroleum prices as well as concerns that the market may be effected by recent Belgian Central Bank sales.

Traders also blamed fund long liquidation and end of the quarter book squaring for the lower clos-

June gold settled on Friday \$1.30 lower at \$398.40 per ounce. May silver closed up 1.0 cent at \$5.54 an ounce, after beavy losses on Thursday. Traders noted a slowing decline in Comex silver warehouse stocks.

Recent declines in LME warebouse stocks, reflecting purchases by China, helped copper prices to close slightly higher on Friday. with the May futures contract up 0.25 cent at 116.50 cents per

Corn futures closed substantially higher on fund buying, spurred by a favorable report by the US Department of Agriculture on US stocks and prospective plaotings. May corn futures closed up 93/4 cents at \$4.09 per

The sbarp increase in corn prices caused CBOT soft red winter wheat futures to close firmer, with the July contract hitting a uew high of \$4.733/4 per bushel. The contract finally closed at \$4.703/4 per bushel - up 33/4

The USDA report showed no surprises for wheat and bad little effect on the market.

Fund buying pushed CBOT soybeans to a much higher close on Friday, boosted by the rise in corn prices - leading to speculation that farmers may switch from planting soybeans to corn instead.

Soy prices were also buoyed by Britain's "nied cow" dilemma. May soybeans ended up 12 cents at \$7.51 per bushel.

May cotton futures closed 0.30 cent down at 83.56 ceots per pound on Friday. Trading was mainly technically inspired. Heavy rains in Argentina and a Texas drought will be drawing the attention of market players in the near future.

May world sugar closed 0.11 cent higher at 11.79 cents bound in a mainly technically driven market, with little fundamental news.

CSCE arabica coffee closed sharply lower on speculative sell-ing, sources said. The most active May contract closed dowo 5.95 cents per pound at 115.45 cents.

CSCE cocoa prices closed higher on Friday, on positive technical signals as well as higher prices m London, traders said. The May cocoa contract settled up \$29 at \$1,306 a tonne - the highest close since February 20.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, CommStock Trading Ltd.

## Sweden plans budget cutback

STOCKHOLM (Reuter) Sweden's Social Democratic government is planning budget con-solidation measures of about six billion crowns (\$900 million) in 1997, Prime Minister Goran Persson said over the weekend.

"I am more uncertain about 1998. As for 1997 we are in the process of budget work and have to decide how much... I would say it is in the range of five to six billion crowns," news agency TX quoted Persson as telling party

Daily Svenska Dagbladet reported earlier that savings or tax increases amnunting to 18 billion crowns in 1997 and 1998 were being planned to meet the target of budget balance by 1998.

The proposals, under which six billion crowns would be consolidated in 1997 while 12 billion crowns would be taken in 1998, would be put forward by Finance Minister Erik Asbrink to parliament on April 15, the paper said.

Stockholm's other major daily Dagens Nyheter also said further cuts in the budget were being planned and mentioned the six billion crown figure on the front

page of its Saturday issue.
The paper said measures would include cutbacks in parental benefits, including a plan to scrap the 90 days' leave with 60 crowns

# Second Japan bank fails, High rates push but damage called limited shares lower

TOKYO (Reuter) - Japan woke on Saturday to only its second bank failure since World War II, but the shock was tempered by the relative small scale and increasing signs that the country's economy was reviving.

The latest victim of Japan's problem loans was Taiheiyo Bank, a regional bank in metropolitan Tokyo, which the Finance Ministry announced late on Friday would be liquidated.

Under the liquidation plan, a new bank would be established to take over Taiheiyo's deposits and healthy assets under the guidance of four of the country's so-called main banks.

The plan's main aim was to protect depositors to bead off a run on the institution when its doors open again today.

Last August, Kobe-based Hyogo Bank became the first nk failure in post-war Japan, setting off a rush by depositors to withdraw their money.

Banking analysts said Taiheiyo'a failure was not as dramatic as Hyogo's bankruptcy, because its effects had already been virtually discounted since the institution bad been struggling to get rid of buge property-related problem loans since 1989,

"This issue would probably be not developed as an issue to renew fears about the stability of Japan's financial system," said Yasuo Ueki, Nikko Securities' general

"The size of the bank's problem loans was not as big compared with the collapse of some other financial institutions in the past year, and big commercial banks have already said they are determined to protect Taiheiyo's depositors.

Hyogo Bank collapsed with unrecoverable loans estimated at 790 billion yen.

The size of irrecoverable loans at Taiheiyo was much smaller, with the central Bank of Japan estimating Taiheiyo'a net liabilities at 130 billion yen, mainly due to irrecoverable loans of about 170 billion yen.

Government statistics announced only hours ahead of

the Finance Ministry's midnight statement on Taibeiyo showed industrial production was up 2.0 percent in February from the previous month and the country's unemployment rate for February fell for the first time in nine

"There is no doubt that the economy is on an upward trend, but I think we have to wait until around May, when April [industri-al] output figures will be released, to confirm the stability and strength of the recovery," said Yasushi Okuda, an economist at Barclays de Zoete Wedd

Securities (Japan) Ltd. The four banks involved in Taiheiyo's liquidation - Sakura Bank Ltd, Fuji Bank Ltd, Tokai Bank Ltd and Sanwa Bank Ltd put together the plan at the request of the Finance Ministry.

Deposits at Taiheiyo will be

transferred entirely to the new bank and protected by the four commercial banks, each of which already has a 5% stake in Taiheiyo.

In a statement, Finance Minister Wataru Kubo said Taiheiyo'a liquidation was needed to protect depositors money.

He said the bank will continue ordinary business until the new bank is created from capital put up by the four banks.

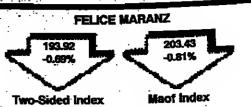
In the past 18 months, four credit unions have collapsed under property-related problem loans because of the burst of the so-called 1980'a bubble economy of inflated land prices.

Banking analysts say Taiheiyo may not be the last financial institution to collapse because the banking industry, battered by problem loans, is struggling to survive in coming years.

"Because of the problem loans weighing on the banking industry, we might see more financial failures this year, possibly six or so," Merrill Lynch Japan analyst Yoshinobu Yamada said

Among the nation's 21 biggest banks, 17 banks — including the four supporting Taiheiyo - have announced in the past week they would post losses in 1995/96 in order to dispose of problem loans as quickly as possible.

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS opened the week with losses yesterday, as investors were drawn by high interest rates toward savings accounts and bonds and away from shares.

Shares in Teva Pharmaceuticals sank 1.5 percent after the compaoy's CEO Eli Hurvitz was indicted on charges of tax evasion at a former subsidiary.

The charges relate to tax evasion at drug company Promedico, which was a aubsidiary of the Petah Tikva-based Teva from 1980 to 1986. The Maof Index fell 0.81 per-

cent to 203.43 and the Two-Sided Index dropped 0.69% to 193.92. Of 993 issues trading across the

exchange, nine shares fell for every five that rose. Almost NIS 62 million worth of

shares traded. Analysts had been expecting ahare prices to rise yesterday. after Maof Index options expired Thursday. Many options investors bad pegged the index at 200. about three points lower than its

current level. Analysts assumed that declining prices last week were prompted by options bolders selling shares in order to push down index's level.

The announcement that Teva's CEO Hurvitz had been indicted "doesn't belp" sbare prices. Teva's shares fell after rising as much as 0.5% in early trading. following gains in Teva's
American Depository Receipts traded on Nasdaq Friday.

(Bloomberg)

# Britain to promote insurance schemes for elderly

HARROGATE (Reuter) - Britain plans legislation to encourage people to take up private insurance schemes to cover them for nursing care in their old age, Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell said vesterday.

He said the government would offer to protect more of people's savings in their old age provided they took up one of the schemes.

At present, many Britons have to sell their homes to pay nursing bome costs and the government steps in to belp them only when their assets are reduced to

Dorrell said one scheme being considered was to printect people's savings up to the amount for which they were insured. However, final details on the exact working of the new scheme had yet to be worked out, be told

"The principle of it is an insurance-based system... in the form of a partnership. We shall offer further protection for those savings in return for people con-tributing to an insurance scheme," be said.

Asked whether there would be legislation before a general elec-tion, due by May 1997, he said: "We certainly want to move as fast as possible on this."

Bot he said the legislation would not force people to insure. "I think it is sensible to encourage people to do it, and we are looking at ways in which we can do that," he said.

Dorrell was speaking in the northern English town of Harrogate where the ruling Conservative Party's Central Council met over this weekend.

## Japan oil reform puts pressure on gas prices products by opening the market to

TOKYO (Reuter) --- Japan's relaxation of gasoline imports today is unlikely to open the flood gates, but is likely to turn the tap enough to put further pressure on already low retail prices and oil refiner's

beleaguered bottom lines. Gasoline imports are expected to account for only three percent of domestic demand," said Akira Takahashi, managing director of Japan's Oil Information Service Center, an energy think-tank.

"However small, the impact imports will bave on gasoline prices will be great," Takahashi said as oil refiners braced for today's onset of oil industry

Takahashi said few countries in Asia have excess gasoline supplies for export at the moment. And in the future most regional refineries would service their own domestic markets.

Oil industry deregulation will cost Japanese refiners their virtually exclusive rights to import gasoline, kerosene and gas oil

more competition. From today, industry groups, trading houses and consumer groups will be able to import from anyone.

The prospect of wider gasoline imports has already shaken the refining industry by depressing prices at Japan's 60,000 gasoline service stations.

In February, Japan'a average gasoline price was 109 yen a liter, down almost 8% from 118 yen last year, Oil Information Service Center data abow.

The nine-yen drop translates into a loss of about 450 million yen for Japan's oil industry, which sells about 50 million kilolitres (314.5 million barrels) a year at home. The government takes 60 yen in taxes on each liter.

The old system effectively allowed refiners to set the price of major oil products in Japan.

In the 1970s, refiners pushed up the price of gasoline, which was deemed to be a luxury item, in line with government guidelines.

The prices of kerosene, used for heating, and gas oil, a basic transport fuel, were kept low because

they were deemed necessities. But now trading bouses, agricultural cooperatives and oil companies have moved to secure small supply deals with South Korean refiners to test quality, supply stability and prices.

Refiners as well as non-refiners want to have an idea of how much gasoline supplies there are and what the quality is like, should they need to import in the future," one oil company official said.

Toshinori Itoh, senior analyst at Daiwa Research Institute, said he did not expect prices to take another dramatic tumble after the country's much-protected market is opened wider. Many prices had

already slipped far enough, he said. "Gasoline imports will force prices lower in regions where prices are still relatively high, belping iron out the wide retail price differences throughout the country," be said. "The national

average gasoline price is likely to slip to around 104 to 105 yen [per

Domestic prices have dropped the most in highly-competitive

regions.
The lowest average retail price in February was 95 yen a liter in auburban Tokyo, while in Shimane prefecture, southern Japan, the price was 124 yen, Oil Information

Service Center data said. Imports should not push depress prices further in areas where they are already low, but they should pressure them in higher-priced areas, Itoh said.

He added the chances for a price recovery were dim unless gasoline stockpiles were kept

"It will be difficult for refiners to cut gasoline supplies, because even with throughput levels at 80%, which is not very high, gasoline production is more than 20% higher than it should be," Itoh said.

# Two-sided trading MORNING AFTERNOON 357 2332 361 864 0.5 157.50 1.0 202 411 -0.5 -1.0 -1.0 -2.6 40.10 18.00 7.70 165.50 1125 978 365.00 167.00 4165.00 185.00 185.00 245 742 457 350 245 745 192.00 192.00 192.00 193.00 193.00 286546 4732 2132 3290 11325 1232 11325 1232 11325 1232 11325 1249 1439 35236 7862 1647 1785 846 5368 17919 11082 1794 11082 11082 11083 11 174 4538 6800 5473 1026 1180 24733 1126 11361 1141 15215 758 25190 9449 18103 1552 757 1459 8900 1552 757 1459 8900 1552 758 1552 Industrials Name Name Name antiotenhic inco antiotenhic inco phyton soriog pomen pomen phyton soriog pomen phyton soriog phyton phyton Action 321200 Investi Compti Name Ameni Ameni Idex Ameni -0.5 -1.2 -20 Property, Building & Agriculture Name Price %cryg autori 202 -18.00 elonitera 81 00 baldon 1202 -18.00 elonitera 120.00 -0.4 elonitera 120.00 -0.5 elonite -1.7 PARALLEL LIST Industrials

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

### World's biggest bank to open today But the cost of becoming num-TOKYO (Reuter) - The world's biggest bank symbolically opens ber one is high. Yushiro Ikuyo. its doors today in a timely

reminder that Japan's battered banking system is still a formida-The union of Bank of Tokyo (BOT) and Mitsubishi Bank into the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd

creates an institution with assets of 72 trillion yen, nearly equivalent to the gross national product of China. It also dwarfs any other single bank in existence at the moment or even a theoretic combination of foreign banks like the US's

Citicorp and Britain's National Mitsubishi, one of the natioo's venerable institutions and Bank of Tokyo, one of the symbols of oewly efficient Japan, have each managed to avoid the worst effects of the Japanese banking crisis by careful leading in the

past allowing them to go into the future without significant bad loans on their books. They also seem a perfect fit as Mitsubishi is strong at bome, where it makes most of its money, with 350 branches nationwide, while Bank of Tokyo is strong abroad having branches in 45 countries from where it makes 75

percent of its income. "It's an offensive rather than a defensive merger," said David Threadgold, senior analyst at **BZW Securities**.

first vice president at Smith Barney International, sees basic merger costs of at least 40 billion yen to 50 billion yen.

- 174

In an era when communications are crucial for success, the oew bank will also need to spend 50 billion to 80 billion yen over the oext five to 10 years to make its computer systems compatible, said Brian Waterhouse, senior analyst at James Capel Pacific. The first task for the new man-

agement is cutting costs and rationalizing operations, difficult tasks in a country where lifetime employment still bolds sway. Through oatural attrition and curbing ocw recruitment, the new bank hopes to cut 2,000 jobs in

the first three years after the merger, reducing the workforce to about 18,000. The banks will also merge branches and units overseas, and review the domestic branch structure. The new bank will start with a total of 84 overseas branches and aubsidiaries, while the two banks together have over 120

branches and units abruad. There will also be a problem of overlapping customers," BZW's Threadgold added. BOT and Mitsubishi share some 4,000 corporate customers and "most sensible borrowers do not borrow too much from one basket," be

# S. Africa's new finance minister pledges simpler taxes

JOHANNESBURG (Renter) --South Africa's new finance minister says he will stand by the ruling ANC's promise to simplify taxes and broaden the taxpayer base.

Trevor Manuel, who takes over as finance minister from Chris Liebenberg on Thursday, said in an interview published in the Sunday Times yesterday that he supported proposals by a government-appointed tax commission to simplify the tax structure.

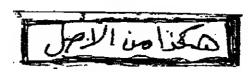
The Katz Commission proposals are aimed at increasing the number of taxpayers, simplifying the tax structure and ensuring more efficient collection. "The reward would be a higher yield, which gives you the maneuverability that does not exist at the

moment," Manuel said. Mannel the former trade and industry minister and the country's first black finance minister. said South African business would have to adapt to baving a finance minister who is from President Nelson Mandela's ruling African National Congress.

Manuel succeeds Liebenberg, a former banker, who was appointed as a non-partisan minister to smooth the country's transition to democracy.

The new finance minister said he supported changes to the running of South Africa's finances outlined by Liebenberg when be presented the budget lastmonth.

The changes included the setting up of a expenditure evaluation unit to ensure correct use of government funds and better management of the country's foreign debt.



# Mac. Jerusalem staves off relegation

LONG-SUFFERING Maccabi Jerusalem players and their fans finally got something to smile about last night. Led by Joe Dawson's 22 second-half points end the outstanding ell-around play of Assaf Barnea, Jerusalem took a large slep towards avoiding relegation to the Secood Division with ao 82-75 victory over Maccabi Ramal Gan in the capi-

Elsewhere around the league. Maecabi Tel Aviv evoided a scare in Safed by winning there 76-71, while Hapoel Tel Aviv continued its fine ruo of late by stopping Bnei Herzliva al Ussishkin, 81-74, and Hapoel Holoo won a meaningless away encounter with Hapoel Gvat. 83-67.

Maccabi Jerusalem 82 Maccahi Ramat Gan 75 Jerusalem's seasoo has ideluded a coaching change, replacement of foreignplayers, and a financial crunch that makes sending the team's laundry out a luxury they can hardly afford. But last night, faced with a do-or-die siluation, Maccabi's fine collection of home-grown players gave it their all and Dawson recap-lured some of his glory days to reward some 1,500 fans who came to lend their support for the other Jerusalem basketball club. The seven-point differential was

also important, since it means that any tic between the two clubs would end up in Jerusalem's favor, since the overall point differential between the ARYEH DEAN COHEN

teams in the two games between them this season is in Jerusalem's favor. Ironically, it was former Maccabi Jerusalem coach Gadi Kedar who was beaten by his former club, thanks to superb defense by Moth Levy on Travis Meys, Barnee's all-around game, and Dawson's timely second-bat scoring. Adonts lordan focused on running the offense, while Uri Cohen-Mintz also contributed some important mioutes. While Jerusalem is not completely out of the relegation woods yet, last night's victory was certainly deserved in light of the club's difficult season and the extra effort given by every player on the

Hepoel Tel Aviv 81 Buei Herzliya 74

Coach Moshe Weinkrantz continues to do miraculous work with Hapoel Tel Aviv, thanks largely to Nanad Markovitch. Markovitch completely took over the final minutes of his club's game against Herzliya, scoring the final 12 points to pull out yet another victory for the rejuveoated Tel Aviv squad.

Herzliya, playing without guard Koren Amisha, spent too much time arguing among themselves and too litscoriog in the final minutes. Although they managed to come back from e 41-32 halftime deficit to lead 65-64 with three mioutes to play, they lacked the teamwork to stop Tel Aviv. which also got a fine performance from Meir Tapiro. Tapiro had 20 points and hil almost every shot he took as Tel Aviv moved closer to

assuring themselves a home-court advantage in the Lower Playoffs and e possible ticket to Korac Cup play next Maccabi Tel Aviv 76

Hapoel Safed 71

As has become its habit of late, Maccabi played just well enough to win, turning on the gas when necessary, thanks to Brad Leaf, to triumph despite the uninspired play of Radisav Curcic and Tomer Steinhauer

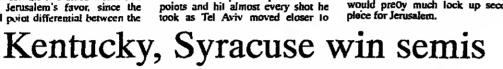
Maccahi, playing without Tom Chambers, trailed 55-48 with 12 min-

chambers, trailed 35-48 with 12 minutes to play in the game before a three-pointer by Leaf turned things around, giving Maccabi a 57-55 lead they clung to the rest of the way.

Doron Jamchi scored 13 points in the game, leaving him one shy of the 10,000 pleteau. The loss was a serious blow to Safed, who fell closer to the red line of relegation despite a fine same by Steve Panovka (16 fine game hy Steve Panovka (16

Hapoel Holon 83
Hapoel Gvat 67
Gvat, once again playing without foreign players, was no maleh for Holon, which was shle to give its staters a rest Yariy Yetzkan led starters a rest. Yariv Yetzkan led Holon with 14 points while Menahem

Atlas had 19 for doormat Gvat.
Tonight, Hapoel Galil Elyoo and Maccabi Rishon Lezion clash in e baitle that could well determine who takes the last Final Four spot, while Hapoel Jerusalem bosts Hapoel Eilat. with the capital squad aiming to make it two wios in two nights for Jerusalem teams at Malha. A victory would preOy much lock up second



EAST RUTHERFORD. New Jersey (AP) - Kentucky beat topranked Massachusetts 81-74 in the national semifinals Saturday. winning the right to take on Syracuse tonight for the championship of American college basketball.

Syracuse beat Mississippi State 77-69 in the day's other semifinal. After winning its four NCAA tournament games by an average of 28 points, Kentucky's Wildcats ere finally tested as the Massachusetts Minutemeo closed a 15-point second-half deficit to 73-70 with one minute to play.

Mark Pope made two free throws with 52 seconds left to take Kentucky ahead by five and Antoine Walker's dunk 14 seconds later - after a missed 3pointer by Edgar Padilla - had the Wildcats on their way to a chance at their sixth national championship, second only to UCLA's

The teams had met in November, when Massachusetts came away with a 92-82 victory. The Wildcats won their oext 27 games until losing to Mississippi State in the championship game of the Southeastern Conference

Earlier, Otis Hill dominated the first half and John Wallace took command down the stretch as Syracuse pushed past Mississippi State 77-69.

Mississippi State was playing in its first Final Four and it showed. The Bulldogs committed 21 turnovers, leading to 25 Syracuse points. The Orangemen, meanwhile, had just five turnovers resulting in only five State points.

Syracuse, unranked at the beginning of the season, and Mississippi State, rated ninth, were the surprise teams in the Final Four. The Orangemen, after finishing fourth to the Big East Conference behind Connecticut, Georgetown and Villanova, barely escaped the round of 16, beating Georgia 83-81 to overtime on Wallace's 3-pointer with two seconds remaining.

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SALES

SYFIACUSE 77, MISSISSIPPI STATE 69
MISSISSIPPI STATE (26-6) Walters 5-9 0-0 10, Jones 6-16 2-2 16, Dampier 4-6 4-4 12, Bullard 4-9 0-0
1, Wilson 7-16 0-0 20, Hughes 0-0 0-0 0, Washington 0-0 0-0 0, Hyche 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-56 6-6 69.

Wilson 7-16-0-20, Hughes 0-0 0-0 0, Washington 0-0 0-0 0, Hyche 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-56 6-6 69.
 SYRACUSE(29-8)
 Burgan 6-11 5-6 19, Wallace 6-14 8-10 21, Hill 7-11 1-2 15, Sims 3-5 4-4 11, Cippola 3-9 2-2 9, Reatisnyder 1-3 0-0 2, Jenulis 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 26-55 20-24 77.
 Haritime - Mississipri State 36, Syracuse 36, 3-Point goels - Mississippi State 11-28 (Wilson 6-13, Bullard 3-7, Jones 2-3), Syracuse 5-12 (Burgan 2-4, Wallace 1-1, Sims 1-3, Cippola 1-3, Januis 0-1). Fouled out - Walters, Rebounds - Mississippi State 41 (Dampier 14), Syracuse 21 (Burgan 7). Assists - Mississippi State 21 (Burgan 7). Assists - Mississippi State 21 (Burgan 7).

Wallace scored 21 points Saturday, including six in a row that turned the momentum in a back-and-forth game to Syracuse's side for good. The Orangemen were leading only 50-48 when Wallace hit a pair of free throws, a turnaround jumper in the lane and

two more free throws to give

Syracuse some breathing room. Jason Cipolla delivered the final blow to the Bulldogs when he broke up a pass at one end of the court and then hit a 3-pointer at At the end, Wallace held the ball

the other to give the Orangemen a 64-55 lead with 3:58 remaining. high over his head and flipped it to Lazarus Sims, who burled it into the Syracuse cootingent in one corner of the arena.

19,229.

KENTUCKY 81, MASSACHUSETTS 74

KENTUCKY (23-2) Anderson 1-3 4-5 6, Walker 5-10 4-5 14, McCarty 4-8 0-0 8, Delk 7-16 5-9 20, Epps 3-6 0-0 7, Pope 1-2 5-5 8, Sheppard 2-2 3-4 7, Turner 1-2 0-0 2, Mercer 4-6 0-1 9, Edwards 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-55 22-30 81.

MASSACHUSETTS(35-2) Dirugle 4-6 0-0 8, Bright 7-14 1-2 15, Camby 9-18 7-9 25.

E-Padilla 2-10 1-2 6, Travieso 3-7 2-2 10, Weeks 0-2 1-2 1, Clarke 1-2 1-2 3, Norville 1-1 0-0 2, Nuriez 0-0 0-0 0, G-Padilla 2-0 0-4 5, Totals 29-64 13-19 74.

Halffilme – Kentucky 36, Massachusetts 28, 3-Point goals – Kantucky 3-9 (Mercer 1-1, Epps 1-2, Delk 1-4, McCarty 0-1, Anderson 0-1), Massachusetts 3-9 (Travieso 2-4, E.Padilla 1-3, Bright 0-1, Cantry 0-1). Fouled but - Bright, E.Padilla, Rebounds - Kentucky 38 (McCarty 10), Massachusetts 35 (Bright 9), Assists - Kentucky 20 (Anderson, Walker, McCarty, Epps 4), Massachusetts 19 (E.Padilla 12), Total fouls - Kentucky 20, Massachusetts 24, A - 19, 229.



MEETING OF MINDS - Manchester United's Andy Cole and Phil Neville revel in their team's 2-

## Cantona-inspired Utd. beats Chelsea Liverpool downs Villa in day's other FA Cup semi

LONDON (AP) - Eight-time titlist Manchester United fell behind to a Ruud Gullit goal but beat Chelsea 2-1 in an Eric Cantona-inspired fightback yesterday to reach the FA Cup final for the third sea-

in the final at Wembley May 11, United will meet five-time winner Liverpool, which downed League Cup titlist Aston Villa 3-0.

Gullit's 35th minute beader gave Chelsea a half-time lead. But Cantona's header set np an equalizer for Andy Cole in the 55th and, a minute after David Beckham had fired United ahead, he turned up as the last line of defense to head John Spencer's goalbound shot off the line.

Made United captain for the day in the absence of injured central defender Steve Bruce, the Frenchman also volleyed against the post and had a late header brilliantly saved by Chelsea goalkeeper Kevin

In a high quality semifinal at Villa Park, United, which lost to Everton in last season's final, hit the post twice and Chelsea struck the bar in the first half.

In the fourth minute, Beckham's first-time shot struck the foot of the Chelsea post. Ten minutes later, Chelsea defender Michael Duberry moved up to curl a left-footed sbot against the crossbar with United's Danish goalkeeper, Peter Schmeichel, motionless

Ryan Giggs missed two chances before Chelsea broke out to score 10 minutes before half time. Former United star Mark Hughes bundled past two defenders and darted into the left side of the Chelsea area. His accurate cross found Gullit completely unmarked and the Dutch striker powered a header past Schmeichel from no more than four yards. Three minutes before half time, Cantona almost produced an equalizer out of nothing, when he opted to volley at goal from 25 yards and his shot thudded against the right hand post.

But the Frenchman played a major part when the equalizer came 10 minutes into the second half. Fullback Philip Neville beat a defender wide on the right and crossed deep for Cantona to head into the danger area. Cole was perfectly placed near the post to stretch out a leg and turn the ball in from a yard out. Four mimnes later United was ahead thanks to a calamitous error by Chelsea defender Craig Burley.

His sloppy, volleyed back-pass from just inside his own half went straight into the path of advancing United midfielder Beckham who raced clear of the rest of the Chelsea defense to slide the ball past unprotected goalkeeper Kevin Hitchcock.
Cantona rescued United with an amazing goal-line

clearance a minute later.

After Schmeichel had raced off his line to beat out a volley from Gullit, the ball fell to Cheisea's John Spencer. His follow-up shot had the goalkeeper beat-en but Cantona was back as the final line of defense to head the ball off the line.

Robbie Fowler netted two of Liverpool's goals against Aston Villa at Old Trafford to take his fally for the season to 33. But the scoreline did little justice to Villa, which kept Liverpool pinned back in its own half for much of the second half.

Fowler's first in the 16th minute was a stunning, low, diving header from Jamie Redknapp's cross from the right, the 20-year-old striker aiming the ball

# Rabkin takes silver in world bowls

NORMAN SPIRO and agencies

ENGLAND'S Tony Allcock retained his world singles title, outclessing surprise finalist Jeff Rabkin of Israel as England also won the fours gold medal yesterday at the world lawn bowls championships.

Allcock, 40, winner in England in 1992, outplayed his opponent 25-15. Rabkin had pulled off the upset of the tournament when he beat Scotland's Richard Corsie in a semifinal.

Rabkin gave a crowd-thrilling display with outstanding driving shots, but could not hold Alicock who was in unbeatable

The Israeli champ was able to stay with the Allcock early and then recovered from a six-shot deficit at 5-11 to trail by one shot after 13 ends of play.

But Allcock seemed to cope better with the difficulty of playing on a fast green and added shots on each of the next nine ends before Rabkin could score again.

"I tightened up, I felt like I had to force on every end, Allcock said.

"I stopped looking at the scoreboard. It was so extremely difficult out there - a fingernail too much and you were three yards heavy - so I was playing as if every end would decide the

game."
Rabkin returns home with a silver medal as world No. 2, following his bronze in 1992.

In the fours final, England trounced Wales 20-9 in a onesided encounter. The English double-win yes-

terday was not enough to eclipse Scotland for the Leonard Trophy, awarded to the winning nation overall, encompassing the singles, doubles, triples and fours. Australia finished third, The tournament featured players from 31 countries.

# Hap. RG blamed in incident with Hap. Taiba

HAPOEL Ramat Gan was the only club implicated in referee Shabtai Nahmias's post-match report following Friday afternoon's eveots in the Second Division match with Hapoel Taiba in Givatayim.

The Taiba players and their supporters are not seen as the culprits, rather, the victims in this incident and the IFA is to take no action m we wind sector

ORI LEWIS

Taiba Mayor Rafik Haj Yihye had gone to the referee's dress The referee had stopped the match in the comments about his calls. Ramat Gan officials 70th minute after one of Ramat Gan's players, had said the comments were racist, but there

was no mention of this in Nahmias's report. The IFA's disciplinary committee has summoned Naim, coach Reuven Cohen, manager Foni Ashkenazi, and chairman Ronnie Abiri to

while serious punishment is certain to be dealt

against Haj Yihye, who had to be protected on

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VEHICLES Jerusalem ARIE PALOGE - QUALITY CARS:

Yuval Naim, who had previously been shown the red card, charged at the linesman and head-

Ramat Gan was leading the match 2-0 at halftime, and club officials had claimed that

appear before it tomorrow evening. A mandatory 2-0 win will awarded to Taiba

to Ramat Gar and its officials. the ItA has chosen not to take any action

leaving the field.

## leaders to visit HEATHER CHAIT

European Olympic

moving into high gear for Atlanta, the Olympic Committee of Israel (IOC) is gearing up to host a conference of European Olympic officials to be held in Israel in early May

At a press conference yesterday, President of the IOC, Yoram Oberkovich described the significance of Israel's hosting heads from 43 European countries as well as representatives from the International Olympic Committee, from Atlanta and from Sydney, the site of the 2000 Games.

"This is indeed proof that Israel

has become an integral part of European sport," said Oberkovich, "an exceptional achievement." Eleven countries bidding for the 2004 Games will also be sending representatives to the two-day conference.

Efraim Zinger, director-general of the IOC, noted that the conference's purpose is not only symbolic; as the last meeting before Atlanta there will be serious work to be done. Final decisions on criteria to the

Olympics and wildcard entries. will be discussed, as well as explaining the logistics of the Olympic village. Israel's delegation to Atlanta will be finalized only in June and is expected to comprise between 20

to 24 sportspersons. Itzik Ben-Melech, director of the Elite Sport Unit at Wingate, said that if 6 to 7 athletes reach the will be a doctor and two masseurs.

WHILE Israel's top athletes are final rounds, "this can be considered a success."

> Ben Melech singled out wrestler Gucca Chichiashvili, who won the bronze medal in last week's European Champiooships, as Israel's major hope. Other potentials are Yael Arad who is presently in good health and

shape but at age 29, is facing younger judokas and Gal Friedman, runner up in the world windsurfing championships who has shown streaks of brilliance interspersed with mediocre results. Yoav Bruck has a slight chance of making the final, said Ben Melech, but the relay team depends on Vadim Alexsev's returning to full health. If he does, the team will be Bruck, Alexsev

and the two best swimmers from Eitan Orbach, Dan Kutler and Eran Germni. On the athletics field, triple jumper Rogel Nahum and pole vaulter Dany Krasnov have passed both the Olympic and Israel criteria but must maintain their performance throughout the year. This means that Nahum has to jump a minimum 16.50 meters and

Krasnov must clear 5.50m, two results they are likely to manage.

Most of the athletes will leave for the US 10 days before the Olympics but will arrive at the Olympic village just 3 to 4 days before their event. Each branch of sport will have one coach only and accompanying the delegation

## SCOREBOARD

NHL - Saturday's results: Hartford 3, N.Y. Islanders I; Pittsburgh 2, New Jersey 1; Montreal 3, Ottawa 1; Tampa Bay 2, Florida 1; Toronto 4, Edmonton 3. 1; Mostreal 3, Ottawa 1; Isimpa may 2, Francia 1; Ioromo 4, Edinomou 3, NBA - Saturday's results: Chicago 106, LA. Clippers 85; Washington 107, Philadelphia 105; Mismi 95, Detroit 85; Portland 109, Houston 94, Denver 98, Milwankee 85; Seattle 100; Utab 98; Cleveland 90, Golden State 64.

(U.S.) 6-1, 6-3.

BRAZILIAN GRAND PRIX - Damon Hill moved into 11th place on the Forumia One all-time victory first yesterday, retaking the lead on the 43rd lap and

Milwankee 85; Scause 100, Dans 30; Coverante 30, Connent State 30.

TENNIS - Result of the women's singles final at the \$4.1 Lipton Championships tennis fournament on Saturday: Steffi Graf (Germany) best Chanda Rubin

breezing to his 15th career win in the Brazilian Grand Prin.

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## CRITIC'S CHOICE

### CHILDREN

HELEN KAYE

ERIC Smith has designed the set and costumes for Miracles and Marvels ("Massa Nissim Venifla'ot"), so get set for lots of color and imagination as Smoking the wandering magician tells the story of how Vardaleh was rescued from the wicked witch's cave. Yossi Carmon wrote and directed this jolly musical for the Cameri Theater. Today and all through Pessah (except for the holidays) at ZOA House at 11 a.m. (Hebrew.)

### CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

JONATHAN Webb leads the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA, in a lunchtime concert tomorrow (1) at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem. The program features the overture to Vaughan Williams's The Wasps and Borodin's hardly ever performed second symphony. Gabi Lipkind plays Haydn's D major cello concerto.

Musical Pessah at Beit Daniel io Zichron Ys'acov opens this Saturday. and features five chamber-music concerts over an equal number of days. The opening concert fea-

tures 8 duo with pianists Bracha Eden and Alexander Tamir playing Schubert's Grand Duo for piano as well as Shostakovich's opus 134 violin and piano sonata performed by Vera Vaidman and Emanuel Krasovsky.

### TELEVISION

RUTH KERN

MARTIN Scorsese had written and directed two movies withio his now well-worn urban wise-guy riff - Who's That Knocking at My Door? and Mean Streets - when, io 1974, he made a gentle. mainstream picture the likes of which he hasn't repeated. Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore, about a newly widowed and broke morn, touched oo a nerve exposed by the emergence of - in what now seems a quaint turn of phrase - women'a libera-tion. In its quiet way, Alice spoke to female independence and the redefinition of the American family. It was a Hollywood picture, however, and although Ellen Burstyn has to take a lowly waitressing job to make ends meet. Kris Kristoffersoo is waiting discreetly in the wings to act as a sexual, emotional and financial safety net. Watch for Jodie Foster in a small role as a school-age hellraiser. Alice will be broadcast on Second Showing



The children's musical 'Miracles and Marvels' is playing at the Cameri Theater throughout Pessah.

at 10 p.m.

### FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

\*\*\* LEAVING LAS VEGAS - His skin sallow, jaw slack, basset-bound eyes pleading. Nicolas Cage gives an enormous, excruciating performance in Mike Figgis's film, and one that's all the more remarkable for its anguisbed attempts at humor. Until oow, Cage has always played the clown - flexing his furry eyebrows and jutting his soft chin to broad comic effect. Amazingly enough, he does the same thing here as an alcoholic Hollywood screenwriter who loses his job, burns his belongings, and drives to Nevada where be intends to drink himself to death. Adapted by Figgis from an autobiographical oovel by the late John O'Brien, the movie is at once harsh and teoder, repellent and engrossing. And almost impossible to enjoy. Indeed, at times Leaving Las Vegas seems very much the brainchild of its aggressively sloshed anti-hero, torn between wanting the audience's affections and shoving us rudely away. But in its wake, a palpable ache lingers on. Newcomer Elisabeth Shue is also poised as the angelic hooker who falls in love with Cage. .(English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

# 54-2112 all me

### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS -

- 1 Retreat when summer's over (4,4)
- 5 Bound to find water underground (6)
- 9 1000 PLO eyed about being in work (8)
- 10 Calm down and pay up (6)
- 11 Always on the increase (8) 12 Declare that a hairpiece is back to front (6)
- 14 Recently packed as a precaution (4,2,4)
- 18 Drawback admitted by rebel leader in humorous
- verse (6.4) 22 Violent band capturing a Guatemalan leader (6)
- 23 Silver-topped palanquin glowing in the light (8)
- 24 Auntie became a Catholic in the East (6) 25 Pions man served egg on
- fish (8)
- 26 Determined to be pursued
- 27 Around noon top fighter
- pilots attempt descent (8)
- DOWN 1 Charge the German
- consumer (6)
- 2 Strode about quietly and did the pruning (6)
- 3 Flourishes and prospers without money (6)
- 4 Give a standing ovation with enthusiasm (10)
- 6 Agreeable requests by a social worker (8).

### 21 An unknown make of liquor? (6)

# 

SOLUTIONS

7 Uncovered hair went

8 Tries to confine male

13 Stand arect, deepita shattering mishap (10)

15 Usa cajolary to have an active social life (3,5)

16 Son gets a ticking-off for drinking too much (8)

17 Run into Miss Davis. Now

19 Row over Anglican service

20 Witness is being examined

she'e a dark one (8)

abstainer in separate

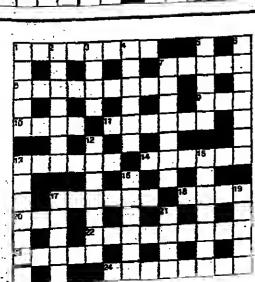
totally awry (2,3,3)

quarters (8)

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Capitol, 5 Gains, 8 Tongs, 9 Ganglia, 10 Doubtless, 12 Gap, 13 Hobart, 14 Niacin, 17 Lea, 18 Flageolet, 20 Yashmak, 21 Troop, 23 Nadir, 24 Trailer. DOWN: 1 Cited, 2 Pan, 3 Traitor, 4 Lagged, 5 Genus, 6 Illogical, 7 Sharpen, 11 Unbiassed, 18 Haleyon, 15 Inertia, 18 Casket, 18

1 Donated (5)

Femur, 19 Toper, 22 Oil.



### QUICK CROSSWORD DOWN

ACROSS 1 Swift's traveller 7 Not fresh (5)

8 Of many-sided ability (9) 9 Dove's call (3) 10 French resort (4) 11 Flatfish (6) 13 Ride fast (6) 14 Clergyman (6)

20 Girl's name (3)

23 Kit out (5)

24 Machinery

22 Immediately (9)

designer (8)

2 Song-like (7) 3 Saddam's country (4) 4 Estable (6) 6 eg Waltz (5) 6 Compunction (7) 7 Earnest (7) 12 Wild flower (7) 13 He mends windows (7) 17 Cleaning cloth (6) 16 eg Matthew or Mark (7) 18 Sport (4)

16 Trafalgar victor 17 Balk (5) 19 eg Bird or pilot (5) 21 Wise men (4)

### WHAT'S ON

TELEVISION

E CHANNEL 1

8:30 News 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

**EDUCATIONAL TV** 

8:00 Cartoons 8:10 Our Friends 8:15 Kitty Cat and Tommy 8:30 Fables of King Babar 9:00 Mother Goose 9:30 Autoto 10:00 A Clever Girl Like Lotta 10:30 Kids Can Rock 'n' Roll 11:00 Lola and the Gang 11:30 Under the Mountain 12:00 Haydaze 12:30 Zombit 13:00 Wonder Cer 13:30 Stories about animals 13:40 Our Friends 13:45 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:00 Fables of King Babar 14:25 Mother Goose 15:00 Autoto

### **■ CHANNEL 1**

15:30 Land without Time 16:00 Rex 16:20 At the Tip of the Brush 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 The Long Journey 18:15 News in English **ARABIC PROGRAMS** 18:30 Sport magazine 19:00 News in

Arabic HEBREW PROGRAMS 19:30 Every Evening - with Merav Michaell 20:00 Mabat News 20:45 Popolitica 22:00 Sanderson 23:00 Backtrack - with Ehud Manor 23:30 News 00:00 Verse of the Day

### **■ CHANNEL 2**

10:00 Cinderella 11:00 The Earthling (1980) - A terminally ili teacher teaches a lost orphan how to survive in Australian bush country. This was William Holden's last film. (102 mins.) 12:40 Songs for the Festival 13:00 Sugar and Spice – Australian comedy series 14:00 All for One – adventura series about a co-ed soccer team 14:30 Tick Tack 15:00 Pinocchio with Hebrew dubbing 15:30 Trick or Treat - drama series about young adolescents finding themselves 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshet 17:30 A Matter of Time - drama for youth 18:00 Santa Barbara 19:00 Baywatch 20:00 News 20:30 The Price is Right 21:05 Zehu Zeh Live 22:00 Dan Shilon live 23:15 Sirens police drama 00:00 News 00:05 Sirens (continued) 00:20 Studs - dating game 00:40 Starsky and Hutch -

## WHERE TO GO

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Herzliye: Clal Pharm, Beif Merkazim, 8 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clai Pham, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to

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Eran - Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 8672222/3, Beersheba 281128, Netanye 626110, Karmiel 9988410, Klar Sava 7674555, Hadera 346789.

Wizo hollines for battered women 02-6514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian) 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amheric) ur-3ros (u, us-590506 (also in Amhend). Rape Cricis Center (24 hours). Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 255558, Heite 8690111, Ellet 31977. Hadassah Medical Organization —Israel Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247676. gery). police series 1:35 Passing through the Night 2:00 On the Edge of the Shell -authors read from their own works 3:15 Poem of the Day

### E JORDAN TV

15:00 Bonkers 15:30 Richie Rich -cartoon 16:00 8ush School 16:15 Playabout 16:30 Bustin' Loose 17:00 Animals of the Mediterranean 17:20
TAO 18:00 French Programs 20:35
The Nanny – comedy 21:00 8aby It's
You— documentary 21:25 The Bold
and the Beautiful 22:10 Temples of the Gods - documentary 23:00 News in English 23:25 P.S. I Luv You 00:10 Taurus Rising 1:00 Ellen - comedy

### **■ MIDDLE EAST TV**

14:00 The 700 Club 14:55 Treasure of Makuma – a stranger searching for hidden pearls brings danger and chaos to a tropical island. [78 mins.) 16:30 Dennis the Menace 16:55 Mask. 17:20 Fables of the Green Forest 17:45 Another Life 18:10 Sea Quest 19:10 The A Team 20:00 World News Tonight (Arabic) 20:30 CNN Headline News 21:00 The Bill Cosby Show 21:30 Diagnosis Murder 22:20 Snowy River 23:30 700 Club 00:00 Special

### CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

17:00 Cartoons 17:30 Royal Tears 18:30 Panorame with Zaidan Atshe 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Songs We Loved 20:00 Mebat News 20:45 Opening Shots - young artists 21:15 Century (1995) - A young doctor at the turn of the century falls in love with one of the assistants at the clinic where he is doing his research until he discovers 50mething about the past of the clinic's director, (100 mins.) 23:00 The Big Game: US vs USSP - documentary 00:00 Closedown

### 應 ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Hey Dad 16:00 Cape Rebel 17:00 Gulliver's Travels 17:30 Time Out 18:00 The Herodian Kingdom 18:30 Family Relations 19:00 Basic Arabic 19:30 Reflection - in Russian 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles 20:30 Preparation for Bagrut 21:00 Medicine Demystified 21:30 The Human Race 22:30 Revolutions in the modern era

### ■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (rpt) 9:00 One Lile to Live (rpl) 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpl) 10:30 Second Time Around 10:55 WKRP in Chainnati 11:25 Celeste (pt) 12:10 Neighbors (pt) 12:35 Perry Mason 13:30 Slaring at 1:30 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Melrose Place 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Models Inc. 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celesie 20:50

Chemital Include:
2 Sprinzak St. # 5772000
On the Edge 5, 7:30, 9:30 \* Voyage to Cythera 7 \* M 10 DIZENGOFF Leaving Las Vegas 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10; \* Show Gris 10:45 e.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7; 45.

Lås Vegas 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10; ★ Show Girls 10:45 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7; 45, 10; ★ A Man of No Importance 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 DRIVE IN American President 10 ★ Sex FRm 12 midnight GAN HATR = 5279215 71 lbn Gabirol St. Priscilla 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT Sense and Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON Est, Drink, Men. Woman 5:30, 7:30, 10 HAKOLNOA = 6953341 26 lbn Gabirol St. The Haunted Sout of a Woman Artist 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 ⇒ 522626 Hod Passage, 101 0/zengoff St. Twelve Monkeys 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Mr. Holland's Opus 4:30, 7:15, 16 ★ Cluelees 11:30 a.m., 2 ★ Dead Man Walking 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Smurts 11:30 a.m., 2 ★ Casino 5:15, 8:30 ★ The Golden Mail Gang 11:30 a.m., 2 LEV 1-4 ≈ 528828 Copycat 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45, 7:30, 10, ★ Antonia'a Line 12 noon, 2:15, 5, 7:30, 10, ★ Hest 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Hest 11:30 a.m., 3, 6:30, 9:45; G.G. PE'ER Copycat 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Hest 11:30 a.m., 7, 10 ★ Casino 11:30 a.m., 5:30, 9 ★ Mr. Holland'a Opus 11:30 a.m., 5:30, 9 ★ Mr. Holland'a Opus

Broken Arrow 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 \*
Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 \* Toy Story (English dialogue) 17:30, 9:45 \*
Ace Ventura 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 \*
Seven 7:15, 9:45 \* The Usual Suspects 7:30, 9:45 \* Operation Dumbo Drop 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 \* Pocahontas (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 \*
Dangerous Minds 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 RAVOR 1-5 \* 5102674 Opera House Brave Heart, 2:30, 6, 9:30 \* Mighty Aphrodite 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 \* Blue in the Face 9:45 \* Il Postino@Star Man 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 \* Toy Story (English dialogue) 2:30, 5, 7:30 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 \* 5177952 2 Yone Hansyn St. Underground 7, 10 \*

\* Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10

Marned with Children 21:15 Nanny 21:40 Mad About You 22:05 Frasier 22:30 Murphy 8rown 22:55 Young Plus 23:20 Mad About You 23:45 Sisters 00:35 Counter Offensive 1:25 Knots Landing

### MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Sinbad - cartoon (81 mins.) (rpl) 12:00 Lady of Burlesque (1943) ~ A sinpper sets out to catch the man who has killed several of her colleagues. Staming Barbara Stanwyck 13:30 State Tutti Bene (1990, Italian) - tamily drama of widower and five adult children (120 mins.) (rpl) 15:35 Man Against the Mob (1989) – e lone police detective confronts the organized crime of Chinatown (94 mins.) 17:15 Fire, Ice and Dynamite (1990) (rpt) 19:00 Brother From Another Planet (1984) – Science fiction / social lantasy. Black slave from another planet turns up in Harlem. Starring Joe Morton (107 mins.) 20:45 Cinema News 21:00 My Girt (1991) – Drarna News 21:00 My Girt (1991) - Drama of adolescence slaming Anna Chlumsky, Den Aykroyd, Jamie Lee Curtis and Mecaulay Culkin (98 mins.) 22:45 Eat A Bowl of Tea (1989) - Ethnic comedy of Chinese-American who brings his bride over after WWII. 498 mins.) 00:25 Highlander fl (1991) - space ection film (rpl) 1:55 The Indecent Woman (1991)(rpl)

### M CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 10:00 Six in the Spring

Open Studio 10:10 The Heart 10:45
Power Rangers 11:15 Sweet Valley
High 11:45 Growing Pains 12:20
Growing Pains 13:00 Muddling
Through 13:30 Hugo 14:00 Surprise
Garden 14:30 Six in the Spring (rpl)
14:46 The Heart (rpt) 15:15 Power
Rangers [rpl] 15:45 Sweet Valley High
(rpt) 18:15 Growing Up Strong (rpt)
16:50 Growing Up Strong (rpt)
16:50 Growing Up Strong (rpt)
16:50 Growing Up Strong (rpt)
16:35 Alvin and the Chipmunks
19:00 Defective Boogie (rpt) 19:30
Three's Company 20:00 Mamed With
Children 20:25 Slep By Step 20:50 My
Bio Brother Jack 21:20 Cheers

### E SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (1975) - A newly widowed housewife doesn't know how to cope with her new situation - nor with a new man who enters her fife. Starring Ellen Burstyn, Kris Kristofferson, Harvey Keitel and Jodie Foster. Directed by Marin Scorsese. (107 mins.) 23:50 Billy 8udd (1962) - Herman Melville's moral parable of an innocent ship hand accused of mutiny. Sterring Peter Uslinov, Terence Stamp and Robert Ryan. Directed by Peter Ustinov. (177 mins.)

### M DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University 12:00 Man and Nature (rpt) 13:00 Beyond 2000 (rpt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 Man and Nature (rpt) 17:00 Beyond 2000 (rpt) 13:00 Open University 20:00 Wild West 21:00 Travel Magazine 21:30 Floyd on Italy 22:00 Gang War.

Blowup in Little Rock - documentary 23:00 Wild West 23:50 Open Univarsity

### **ESTAR PLUS**

6:00 Aerobics 6:30 The Artist and the Professor 7:00 Beverty Hillbillies 7:30 Look and Cook 8:00 Video Fashion News 8:30 Gabrielle 9:30 Sante Barbara 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Oprah Winfrey 12:00 Remington Steele 13:00 Look and Cook 13:30 Video Fashion News 14:00 Teenage Mutaril Ninja Turties 14:30 Small Wonder 15:00 The Black Stallion 15:30 Batman 18:00 Home and Away 16:30 Entertainment Tonight 17:00 MA'S'H 17:30 A Touch of Frost 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Sanle Barbara 21:00 Hard Copy 21:30 Hearts Afire 22:00 Grace Under Fire 22:30 Sarnaby Jones 23:30 Entertainment Tonight 00:00 Oprah Winfrey 1:00 Hard Copy 1:30 Home and Away 2:00 The Sullivans

### **■ CHANNEL 5**

9:00 US College Basketball – semi-finale from yeslerday 10:30 Israel National Soccer League 11:30 Israeli Volleyball playoffs 13:30 English Cup Soccer 16:00 US College Basketball – yeslerdays semi-finals 17:45 English yeslerday's semi-finals 17:45 English Cup Soccer 19:45 Name of the Game 20:15 High Five – Maccabi Rishon Lezion vs Upper Galilee 22:30 English Soccer League 23:30 US College Basketball – yesterday's semi-finals

### **■ EUROSPORT**

9:30 Diving: Europe Cup from Germeny (rpt) 11:00 Challenge sports: parachuting, bungée jumping, sail-gliding 12:00 International Motor Sports Megazine 13:00 Motorcycle racing (rpt) 15:00 Coromala 1: car rac-ing (rpt) 15:00 Coromala 1: car racing (rpl) 15:00 Car racing 16:30 Free-style jumping: World Cup from France 17:30 Funboard 18:00 Snow crawling 19:00 Sea styles 19:30 Formula 1: car racing (rpt) 20:30 Soccer: Eurogoals 21:00 Fast World - Motor Sport Magazine 22:45 Sport Magazine 23:00 Car racing 00:00 Eurogoli

### PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Cricket 12:30 PGA Golf Tournament 15:00 College Basketball, semi-finals (rpt) 17:00 College Basketball, semi-finals (rpt) 19:00 Cricket 19:30 Cricket 20:30 Car racing 22:00 PGA Golf Tournament 00:30 Chinese League Soccer

### E BBC WORLD

News on the hour 6:05 Omnibus -the todian Film Industry (rpt) 10:00 Omnibus - the Indian Film Industry (rpt) 11:30 Top Gear 12:30 Food and Drink (rpt) 15:05 Conespondent (rpt) Drink (rpt) 15:05 Conespondent (rpt) 16:15 World Business Report 16:30 Asia-Pacific New5 17:30 Time Out: O.E.D. 18:05 Oranbus — the Indian Film Industry (rpt) 19:05 World of the Future (rpt) 22:05 Omnibus — the Indian Film Industry (rpt) 23:30 Time Out: Holiday 00:00 World Business

# CINEMA

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE The Kingdom (part 1) 5 % The Kingdom (part 2) 7.45 % Edinburgh Is Not Waiting For the 200 Priest: 10:30 G.G. Gift Jerusalem Mai AFULA
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Holland's Opus 4:30, 7:15, 10 \* Golden
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Operation Dumbo Drop 11 a.m., 1 \*
Santa Clause 11 a.m. \* Dangerous
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7:30, 10 \* Heat 4, 7, 10 \*
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6:30, 9:45 \* \* The Golden Mail Gang
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GangeFree Willy 2 11:30 a.m., 4:30 \*
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9.30 + Broken Arrow 4:30 T. 9:30 + The Golden Mall Gang 11:31 a.m. \* Heaf 9:30 \* Toy Story (Hebren dialogue) 11:30 a.m., 4:59, 7:30 UPPER NAZARETH G.G GIL Casino 3-45 \* Ace Ventura 11

G.G GIL Casino 3-45 \* Ace Ventura 11 a.m., 4:50, 7 \* Broken Arrow 11:30 a.m., 4:50, 7 \* Broken Arrow 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 \* Copycat 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 \* Toy Story (Hebrew dislingue) 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 \* Dead Man Walking 9:30 \* Get 5horty 4:30, 7, 9:30 \* The Golden Mail Cang 11:30 a.m., \* 7welve Mankeys 11 a.m., 4:50, 7, 9:50 \* Heat 4, 7, 10 \* Golden Eye 11:30 a.m., NESS ZIONA G.G. Gil. 1-4 = 404:729 Copycat 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 \* Heat 4, 7, 10 \* \* The Golden Mail Gang®A Goofy Movie 11:30 a.m. \* Cassino 6:30, 9:45 \* Golden Eye 11:30 a.m. \* Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 NETANYA

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5:30 RAMAT GAN RAV-GAN 1-4 = 6197121 Mighty Aptrodite 7:30, 9:45 \* Toy Story (Flathew disloque) 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 \* \* Toy Story (English disloque) 9:45 \* Santa Ctause 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 \* Ace Ventura 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 \* Sense and sensibility 7:15, 9:45 \* Operation Dumbo Drop 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 RAV-OASIS 1-3 = 5730887 Copyrad 5, 7:15, 9:45 \* 9roteri 6730687 Copycat 5, 7:15, 9:45 + 9roken Arrow 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Get Shorty 5, 7:30

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GAL 1-5 = 9619669 Toy Story (English dialogue) 7:30. 10 \* Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m., 5 \* Get Shorty 7:30. 10 \* The Golden Mall Gang@Clueless 11:30 z.m., 5 \* Casino 6:30, 9:45 \* Golden Eye 11:30a.m. \* Ace Ventura 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 \* Seven 7:15, 10 HAZAHAV Twelve Monkeys 5, 7:30, 10 HAZAHAV Twelve Monkeys 5, 7:30, 10

\* A Goofy Movie 11:30 a.m., 2 \* Heat 7,
10 \* Operation Dumbo Drop 11:30 a.m.,
4:30 \* Copycat 5, 7:30, 10 \* The Golden
Mall Gang 11:30a.m., 2 RAV CHEN ±
9670503 Broken Arrow 7:30, 9:45 \* 1
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dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 \* Sense and
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a.m., 1, 5 \* Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue)@An Indian in the
Cupboard@Operation Dumbo Drop 11
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9:45 STAR 1-4 = 96:19985-7 27 Lishinsky
51. Broken Arrow 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 \*
Dead Man Walking 7:30, 10 \* Father of
the Bride II 11:30 a.m., 5 \* Sense and
Sensibility 7:15, 10 \* An Indian in the
Cupboard 11:20 a.m., 5 \* Mr. Holland's
Opus 7:15, 10 \* Mortal Kombat 11:30
a.m., 5 3

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a.m. 53

Yone Hanavi St. Underground 7, 10 \*
Cead Man Walking 7:30, 10 G.G. TEL
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Monkeys 5, 7:30, 10 \* Casino 6:30, 9:45 HAIFA CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI = 325755 American President 7:15, 9:15 \* Smoke 9:15 \* Passover Fever 7:15 ATZMON 9:15 \* Passover Fever 7:15 ATZMON
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1-3 = 382020 The Golden Mail
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2.m., 4:30 RAV-GAT 1-2 = 974311 [05]
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EILA! KOLNOA EILAT Toy Story 11 a.m., 5, \* Broken Arrow 7:30, 10 5, 7:30, 10 \* Copycat 7:30, 10 5, 7:30, 10 HADERA TABLETIA:
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HERZLIYA COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) = 6902666 Sense end Sensibility 11 a.m., 5-45, 8-15, 10:30 5:45, 8-15, 10:30 ★ Star stan 11 a.m., €, 8, 10 6, 8, 10 STAR± 58:008 Ace Ventura 11 a.m., 1, 4:30, 5:15 11 a.m., 4:30, 5:15 \* Copycat 6:30, 9:45 \* Father of the Bride II 11 a.m., 1:15, 4:30 11

KARMIEL CINEMA 1-3 = 887277 Broken Arrow 11 a.m., 5, 7, 9:30 7, 9:30 + Heat 9:15 9:30 + Toy Story (Hebrev dialogue) 11 a.m.. 5 \*
Toy Story (English dialogue) 7, 9:30 \* Ace
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a.m., 5, 7/30, 1130 a.m., 5, 7/30, 12:15 \*
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12:30 \* The Golden Mail Gang 1:30 a.m.,
5 \* Get Shorty 5, 7/30, 10 7/30, 10, 12:15
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G.G. KIRYON 1-9 = 779166 Twelve
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\* Mir. Holland's Opus 7, 9:30 9:30, 12 \* A
Goofly Movie 11 a.m., 4:45 \*
Copycat@Get Shorty 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:30
7, 9:30, 12 \* Leaving Las Vegas 7, 9:30

ISRAEL'S No. 1

CELLULAR PHONE

# Special police unit to help GSS protect VIPs

SEVERAL units of the police Special Patrol Squad may be transferred to the General Security Service in an effort to better coordinate the guarding of VIPs, including the prime minister.

The squads, widely known hy their Hebrew acronym Yasam, is traditionally the main force used by police in controlling demonstrations.

But since the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in November, the squad bas also been used frequently to help out GSS bodyguards protecting the prime minister and other leaders.

The Yasam unit's duty is to ensure the area around the person being protected is "sterile" or clear of unauthorized persons, by physically removing the unwanted persons and then creating an outer circle with their bodies through which no one is allowed to enter.

The GSS hodyguards create the inner circle that stays close to the VIP heing protected.

The move of several Yasam squads to the GSS is one of the points heing considered by the committee set up by the Israel Police to follow through on the recommendations by the Sbamgar Commission on the assassination.

The cabinet vesterday adopted the commission's report. A cabinet communique said the government "took upon itself to act according to its recommendations.'

The committee, headed by Cmdr. Danny Brinker, head of the police operations division, began meeting yesterday. A police spokesman said the committee is working closely with the GSS.

The Shamgar Commission blasted both the GSS and police for their lack of cooperation and coordination, pointing to this as one of the factors that for years bas left the nation's leaders open to attack.

The commission called on the police and GSS to define more each responsibilities. Just who is responsible for ensuring the area around the person being protected is sterile is one of the issues that remains unclear under existing regulations.

The commission also said vital intelligence information was often not passed from the GSS to the police, and when it was passed on it would not reach the lower-ranking policemen who needed to act on it. The most glaring example of such a lack of coordination was the failure to transmit the threat of attack on

The commission's report also noted that the state inquiry into the Hebron massacre also recommended improvements in the flow of intelligence information, and that this was not properly carried out.

Police sources said it would likely take the committee several weeks to complete its



Local Catholics and pilgrims from abroad mark Palm Sunday yesterday with a procession from Bethphage over the Mt. of Olives to St. Anne's Church on the Via Dolorosa in the Old City of Jerusalem. With the beginning of the western Christian Holy Week, Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet has asked the Civil Administration to examine the possibility of allowing Christians from the West Bank to enter Jerusalem for the Easter celebrations.

# Peres leaves for Oman, Qatar

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres begins a two-day trip to two Persian Gulf states today, amid expectation that a landmark annonncement will be made in Qatar enabling the opening of an Israeli economic liaison office in

It will be the first visit to Qatar hy an Israeli prime minister. Today, Peres visits Oman, where he will meet Omani leader DAVID MAKOVSKY

Sultan Qaboos. Yitzhak Rabin was the first Israeli premier to visit Oman in December 1994, but then the Israeli media was barred.

Israel and Oman have enjoyed quiet security links since Oman asked for Israel's help in the aftermath of an attempted insurrection by the Dofari northern province in the mid-1970s. Oman was the only Arab country not to ostracize Egypt when it made peace with Israel in 1979.

During Peres's visit to Qatar tomorrow, he is expected to discuss a natural gas deal between the two countries. Contrary to reports, Israel and Qatar bave yet to conclude how such gas will be trans-ported as well as Egypt's insistence that it could provide such natural gas to Israel at a cheaper price.

Peres's flight to the Gulf will be lengthier than necessary since Sandi Arabia refuses to allow Israel to use its airspace. Therefore, perhaps fittingly, Peres and his entourage will be traversing the Red Sea. back and forth on the eve of

AROUND THE WORLD

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 10 of spades, eight of hearts, queen of diamonds. and jack of clubs.

# Meshulam's men spray tear gas at police in Petah Tikva

RAINE MARCUS

ABOUT 20 of Uzi Meshulam's supporters gathered opposite the Petah Tikva police station last night shouting slogans and spray-ing tear gas at policemen. Fifteen of them were detained for

questioning.
Sources said that Meshulam had issued orders from his prison cell to his supporters to start riots

around the country.

Meanwhile, several of Uzi Meshulam's followers appeared in Rebovot Magistrate's Court yesterday after they ran riot on Thurs-

day night and Friday. Yehuda Natanel was remanded for 24 hours to enable police to prepare an expedited indictment, and Rabbi Yitzhak Lehiani was remanded until the end of legal proceedings. Seven others were given the opportunity to go free on NIS 5,000 bail on condition that they do not go near Rishon Lezion police station. But they refused, saying they would rather be remanded until the end of proceedings "or forever." Tweive other supporters were released on bail.

### Arab scout injured in clash with police

An eastern Jerusalem youth was lightly injured by police yesterday evening, when a march by Arab scouts ended in violence. The march was held near the Old City and as it ended near the Old City and as it ended near the New Gate, participants started throw-ing rocks and bottles at police. When calls for them to disperse were ignored, the marchers were dispersed by force

dispersed by force. Earlier in the day, scours from Bethlehem had protested at a checkpoint outside the city. They were augry that the closure prevented them from participating, as they usually do, in the Palm Sunday procession in lerusalem. Itim

# Al-Azhar sheikh: Suicide bombers aren't martyrs

THE sheikh of Egypt's Al-Azhar University and the country's supreme Sunni Moslem authority. Mohammed Santawi, yesterday refused to refer to suicide bombers responsible for recent attacks in Israel as "martyrs."

"If a Moslem on the hattlefield sacrifices his life in order to kill the enemy, he will be considered a martyr," said Santawi. "But someone who kills innocent women and children is a different question, hetween him and Allah, and I cannot say that the two cases are equal." he told

the official Egyptian news agency MENA.

There is a difference hetween the two," he continued, but refrained from condemning the suicide bombers as criminals.

Santawi was appointed head of the prestigious Al-Azhar religious university last week hy President Hosni Mubarak. He is considered less conservative than his predecessor. Sheikh Gad al-Hak, who died March

WHILE Israeli travel agencies are gearing up to add Oman to the list of countries Israelis are able to visit, the level of relations should go way beyond that of providing a beauty spot on the Arabian Sea. And although the Omanis have warmly received Israeli visitors so far - even those traveling on Israeli passports - the country seems hesitant about opening its gates to mass tourism from the Holy Land.

During a visit with the first Israeli official delegation to the Gulf, in April 1994, among the reservations expressed were the possibility of "lager louts" and "hooligans" getting drunk and causing damage.

More pertinently, there was a fear that if numbers. Oman will not be able to prevent Palestinians from coming, and some of them might try to settle and find work there. Unlike Kuwait, Oman has almost no Palestinians, and nearly all its foreign workers come on fixed contracts from the Indian

Omanis say if peace inevitable,

why not enjoy its fruits now

LIAT COLLINS

Although it retains ties with both Iran and Iraq, Oman feels threatened by the spread of Islamic fundamentalism, particularly given its proximity to Iran. That ties between Jerusaem and Muscat will take into account the joint war against fundamentalist terror can be seen from Oman's participation in the recent Sharm e-Sheikh conference, and its change in attitude following the gulf war when Scuds were fired on neighboring Sandi Arabia.

Israel can also expect help with changing their uncompromising support for their Palestinian "brethren," but have no problem with inviting Shimon Peres despite the Palestinian Authority's call to hold off as long as the closure is in force. Both the geographic distance and the laid back form of Islam they practise, has kept them less directly involved

in the Palestinian issue than other Arab countries.

Oman's practical approach is that peace in the Middle East is inevitable, therefore it should be able to put this to fruitful use today, rather than tomorrow. Oman and Israel are already cooperating on a desalimition pittled. And although Oman has oil, it is gearing up for a time when the wells run dry. It is showing great interest in Israeli high tech plants and in training programs to replace the for-eign workers. "Omanization" is a term fre-quently heard in economic circles there.

It is also keen to learn more about desert agriculture methods and health care, particularly help with genetic problems resulting

So economic ties should develop beyond the level of mutually providing tourists, though Omanis, as Moslems, dream of visiting Jerusalem and Israelis can dream of a the joys of a country whose beauty and charm could have inspired Hollywood's idea of



### THE JERUSALEM POST **PESSAH HANDICRAFTS FAIR**

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# PM: No leakage from Dimona

DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

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> A Special Offer for readers of POST

radioactive waste emanating from the Dimona nuclear reactor, Prime Minister Shimon Peres

informed the cabinet yesterday. Peres said the radioactive waste is stored according to strict international criteria, and therefore there is no safety risk for workers or anyone else.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid called Dimona one of the safest nuclear reactors in the

Meanwhile, Egyptian Presi-dent Hosni Mubarak declared that there isn't any "bard evidence" showing a radioactive leak from the Dimona reactor, but that tests are still being conducted.

"There isn't any hard evi-dence" of a radioactive leak, "but we're continuing to investigate whether such a leak could affect underground water reservoirs," Mubarak said at a joint press conference with his Yemeni counterpart Ali Abdallah Salah. We are searching for credible

information, while simultaneously demanding that the Middle East become a region clear of any weapons of mass-extermination."



Zinfandel White & Red Cabemet Sauvignon

### NEWS IN BRIEF

Gasoline up 5 percent

The price of gasoline was raised about 5 percent at midnight last night as a result of price fluctuations in the market, the Energy Ministry announced.

The price of 96 octane gas is now NIS 2.83, up from NIS 2.70. Unleaded gas costs NIS 2.75, up from NIS 2.61.

Eliahu Elias, 26, of Bat Yam, who was shot by police after driving through a roadblock in Jaffa Saturday night, died yesterday morning. A passenger in his car, Rinat Ben-Shoshan, is still hospitalized. The Justice Ministry's Police Investigations Division is investigating the incident.

Man shot at police roadblock dies

Defense spending drops 3% Defense spending continued to shrink in 1995, when it totaled NIS 31.8 billion, 3 percent less than the previous year, the

Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. In 1994 defense spending fell by nearly 10% in comparison with the previous year. Over the past two decades, military and other defense-related spending, including salaries, plummeted by nearly a third.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Former Egged comptroller released on bail Ya'acov Fish, a former Egged economist/comptroller, suspected of being involved in a massive frand scam between the cooperative

of being involved in a massive fraind scam between the cooperative and Mercedes agents here and in Germany, was released on NIS 10,000 bail by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday. Fish is suspected of failing to disclose the scam, allegedly conducted while he was employed by the company between 1977 and 1989. According to the National Fraud Squad, Fish knew that senior Fendage analyses when the between the scan of the senior fendage and the senior fendage analyses. that senior Egged employees were taking bribes in return for buying bundreds of Mercedes buses.

Fish denied all allegations.

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French Hill overpass completed
The second span of the French Hill overpass in Jerusalem was

officially opened yesterday afternoon by Mayor Eland Olmert and Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar. The first span of the bridge, opened more than a year ago, has already greatly eased traffic congestion for commuters from Jerusalem's northern neighborhoods and suburbs.

Pessah special on neutering cats
The Cat Welfare Society is spaying and neutering cats at half
price through April 11, except for the holidays. A female cat will
be spayed for NIS 150 and a male castrated for NIS 110. The operations will be carried out at the society's center on Moshav Gan Haim. For an appointment, call 09-985631 or 09-917329.